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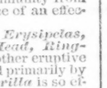

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oct 22 37-1ych

From the Raleigh Sentinel.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE

SENATE.

TUESDAY, Dec. 7, 1869.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

By Mr. Davis—A bill to amend an act authorizing the county commissioners of Cumberland to levy a special tax, "so as to allow the commissioners to use for the maintenance of the poor, and for other purposes, four-fifths of the money authorized to be collected by said act."

A message was received from the House transmitting a resolution proposing to adjourn on the 20th of December, to meet again on the 10th of January, which was adopted.

By leave, Mr. Moore, of Yancey, introduced a resolution providing that the General Assembly shall adjourn *sine die* on the 20th of December, 1869.

By leave, Mr. Jones, of Mecklenburg, introduced a bill to amend an act to provide for a system of public instruction; referred.

The point of order raised by Mr. Robbins on yesterday, "that a tender of resignation by a member of the Senate necessarily vacates his seat, and it is not in order for the Senate to take any action upon it, either in the way of accepting or refusing to accept such resolution," was then taken up.

The President said:

I will again state why I hold the point of order made by the Senator from Rowan not to be well taken. If a Senator's resignation is bound to be accepted by the Senate as soon as tendered, he may be guilty of gross violation of law and of the rules of order, and may avoid expulsion or censure, or such other punishment as his conduct deserves, or which this body may choose to inflict, by tendering his resignation. A Senator may be guilty of an offence during a recess, which is wholly unworthy of the high position which he occupies, calculated to bring scandal upon this body and reproach upon himself, and if he, by simply tendering his resignation, can vacate his seat, he may well defy this body, and thus escape the punishment which he may richly deserve. It would be an unwise and dangerous precedent. Again, if a Senator, during vacation, forwards his resignation to the Governor, for good cause shown, he (the Governor) may refuse to accept it, and may refer the same with his reasons for refusing to accept, to the Senate upon its re-assembling, so that there may be an investigation. A Senator may rise in his place in the Senate Chamber, defy all the authority of the State, of the people and of the Senate, with perfect impunity, and cast imputations upon the body of which he is a member which are unjust, ungenerous and false, if he can, by tendering his resignation, vacate his seat, and put himself beyond the reach of the only tribunal which can take cognizance of his offence.

The Chair, also, thinks that the Senate ought, as a matter of course, to accept the resignation now tendered because the Senator from the 4th District has always during the sessions, as well as during vacations, demeaned himself as a gentleman and as an honorable Senator, and there are no charges against him.

The Chair would further say that the point of order raised by the Senator from Rowan has already been decided by this Senate adversely to him, in that the Senate did heretofore permit the Senator from the 4th District to withdraw his resignation and did also entertain and vote upon a motion made to accept the resignation of the Senator from the 38th Senatorial District. The Chair, therefore, deems the question already adjudicated, and if the Senate now sustains the point made by the Senator from Rowan, it will ignore what it has heretofore done on the same question.

Messrs. Robbins, Sweet and Jones, of Mecklenburg, argued against the position taken by the Chair, and cited numerous precedents to sustain their position; among them Mr. Sweet alluded to the case of Preston S. Brooks in his assault on Sumner, and of O. B. Mattison, a member of Congress, who had serious charges preferred against him. A Committee was appointed to investigate the case and reported a resolution of expulsion; before any action could be taken Mattison tendered his resignation to the Governor of his State and the resolution to expel him was laid on the table, as it was decided that he was no longer a member of the House and consequently no further action could be taken in the case.

The question was put, "shall the decision of the Chair be sustained," and decided in the affirmative.

The resignation of the Senator was accepted.

On motion the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, Dec. 7, 1869.

Mr. French arose to a question of privilege in regard to some remarks of Mr. Jarvis yesterday when the question of the Committee going to New York was discussed.

RESOLUTIONS AND BILLS.

Mr. Pou offered a resolution that the Public Treasurer be directed not to pay interest on the coupon bonds issued for the purchase of a Penitentiary site.

Mr. Pou said that a similar resolution had passed the Legislature last session but owing to some *strange omission* it did not appear among the public laws.

On motion of Mr. Pou the rules were suspended and the resolution passed its second reading by a vote of yeas 89, nays 0.

The resolution then passed its third reading and was ordered to be sent to the Senate.

By Mr. Moore, of Chowan: A bill to lay off and establish a new county by the name of Dare. Lies over.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

The motion to reconsider the vote by which the resolution raising a Committee of three to proceed to New York, to investigate the rules and munipulations of North Carolina bonds.

Mr. Moore of Chowan, spoke for sometime in favor of a reconsideration. He opposed the resolution on the ground that the Committee would be useless and powerless in New York.

Mr. Welch argued at length against the motion.

The gentleman (Mr. Durham) who introduced the resolution thought he could ferret out some fraud by going to New York. Why not then let him go? Every man who voted for these appropriations, and especially the Railroad Presidents, should be anxious for it. If Mr. Durham shall come back and be compelled to report to this House that he could find nothing then that will redound to the benefit of the Republican party. He (Mr. Welch) could not understand why every proposition should be so strenuously and persistently fought. Gentlemen fight this resolution as they say on account of the expense, the whole matter would not cost $500, and surely this is a most insignificant sum when millions are envolved, &c.

Mr. Ingram said all this opposition to every proposition looked very much like shirking an investigation.

Mr. Pou said he should support every proposition looking towards investigation. He could not understand why gentlemen should oppose any measure which might tend to aid in this investigation, &c. He opposed any reconsideration.

Mr. Downing said he saw from the *Sentinel*, that the information could be had from New York without the Committee going there, therefore, he was in favor of the reconsideration.

Mr. Seymour thought the House would make itself ridiculous by sending the committee to New York. He proceeded to some length in favor of the reconsideration, &c.

Mr. French spoke for some time in favor of the reconsideration. He repeated in substance the same arguments that were used on former occasions.

Mr. F. called for the previous question. Mr. Malone desired to be heard and requested Mr. French to withdraw the call.

Mr. French refused.

The call for the previous question was sustained.

The question recurred upon the motion to reconsider.

The yeas and nays were called and the motion to reconsider was adopted by the ballot.

YEAS.—Messrs. Ames, Ashworth, Barnett, Carson, Cary, Cawthorn, Cherry, Crawford, Downing, Eagles, Forkner, Foster, Franklin, French, Gahagan, Graham, Gunter, Hendricks, Hilliard, Hodgin, Hoffman, Horney, Hudgings, Justus of Henderson, Justice, of Rutherford, Leary, Long, of Richmond, Mayo, Mendenhall, Moring, Moore, of Chowan, Morrill, Peck, Price, Rea, Renfrow, Robbins, Reynolds, Seymour, Sinclair, Simonds, Smith, of Martin Snipes, Stanton, Stevens, Stilley, Sweat, Sykes, Vestal, Vest, Waldrop, White, Williamson and Wilson—51.

NAYS—Messrs. Argo, Armstrong, Barnes, Clayton, Davis, Davidson, Durham, Ellis, Ellington, Ferebee, Gibson, Harris, of Franklin, Hawkins, Hicks, High, Hinnant, Hodnett, Humphries, Ingram, Jarvis, Kelly, of Davie, Kelly, of Moore, Long, of Chatham, Malone, Matheson, McMillan, Moore, of Alamance, Nicholson, Painter, Pou, Shaver, Smith, of Wayne, Thompson, Welch, Whitley, Williams, of Harnett, and Williams, of Sampson—39.

The question recurred upon the adoption of the resolution.

Mr. French moved to indefinitely postpone the whole matter and upon that motion called for the previous question.

The call was sustained.

The motion to indefinitely postpone was then rejected.

Mr. Seymour then moved to lay the resolution on the table.

The yeas and nays were called and resulted in the adoption of the motion by the following ballot:

YEAS.—Ames, Ashworth, Barnett, Blair, Carson, Carey, Cawthorn, Cherry, Crawford, Downing, Eagles Forkner, Foster, Franklin, French, Gahagan Graham, Gunter, Hendricks, Hodgin, Hoffman, Horney, Hudgings, Justice, of Rutherford, Kelly, of Moore, Leary, Long, of Richmond, Morrill, Peck, Rea, Renfrow, Robbins, Reynolds, Seymour, Sinclair, Simonds, Smith, of Martin, Snipes, Stanton, Stevens, Stilley Sweat, Vestal, Vest, Waldrop, White, Williamson Wilson—Yeas 52.

NAYS.—Argo, Armstrong, Banner, Clayton, Davis, Davidson, Durham, Ellis, Ellington, Ferebee, Gatling, Gibson, Harris, of Franklin, Hawkins, Hicks, High, Hinnant, Hodnett, Humphries, Ingram Jarvis, Kelly, of Davie, Long, of Chatham, Malone, Matheson, McCanless, McMillan, Moore, of Alamance, Nicolson, Painter, Pou Robinson, Shaver, Smith, of Alleghany, Smith, of Wayne, Thompson, Welch, Whitley, Williams, of Sampson.—Nays 40.

SPECIAL ORDER.

Committee of the Whole to investigate alleged railroad frauds.

Mr. Pou in the Chair.

The clerk read the proceedings of the last sitting of the committee.

Mr. Downing said he hoped the gentlemen who sought this committee would now bring forward their witnesses and not let the Committee sit with their fingers in their mouths.

Mr. Durham said that the action of the Republican party for the last few days had satisfied him that no fair investigation was going to be allowed. The Republican party had just voted down a measure that would have resulted in disclosures in these patent rascalities. He saw every avenue to a full investigation was going to be stopped up, and the investigation was to be conducted by Republicans and in a Republican manner. He now proposed not to have anything to do with this matter until these Republicans, who intended to conduct this affair in a Republican manner had shown what they intended to do. He denounced the whole affair as a shameful shirking and intention to smother a fair investigation.

Mr. Malone moved to request the appearance of the Superintendent of Public Works. Carried.

Mr. Stilley moved to request the appearance of the Treasurer. Carried.

Mr. Hinnant moved to summon G. W. Swepson. Carried.

Mr. Seymour moved that all persons who have been Presidents of railroads since May 1st, 1865, in which the State is interested, be summoned before the committee. Carried.

The Superintendent of Public Works appeared before the bar of the House.

Mr. Malone then proposed the following questions:

1st. Please state what Railroad Companies have failed or refused to report to you as required by law?

Answer. The Wilmington and Tarboro', W., C. & R. R. R., Chatham R. R., A. & N. C. R. R., Western Division of Western R. R., (no report from either Swepson or Littlefield) Eastern Division of the same Road, have not yet been received. The report of the Western R. R. received this morning.

2d Q. Have you demanded these reports?

A. I sent blanks for that purpose some two months ago.

3d Q. Have they or any of them refused to allow you to investigate the affairs of their roads?

Mr. Moore, of Chowan, objected to the question on the ground that the law gave no power to the Superintendent of Public Works, if the question applied to the books, &c.

The Chairman decided that the question was admissible.

Mr. Malone said:

Is it not strange that gentlemen would throw obstacles in the way of this investigation? The 4th section of the act defining the duties of the Superintendent of Public Works, requiring him to report, *in detail*, every item demanded by him.

Here is a refusal of these Directors to allow the high officer of the government to observe their condition. This is monstrous! Here is $8,000,000 of stock in the hands of these Directors. Shall we not have their condition fully exposed.

After a long debate, Mr. Moore, of Chowan, appealed from the decision of the Chair.

Mr. Seymour also objected to the question.

Isham Sweat thought the Superintendent of Public Works had a perfect right to examine books of the roads or the books of anything else that concerned the public works of the State, he did not understand why gentlemen should object to this question. By so objecting they placed themselves in an awkward position.

Mr. Argo made an able and conclusive argument, strengthened in his position by extracts both from the constitution and acts of the General Assembly, that the Superintendent of Public Works had a perfect right to examine the accounts and books of these companies. If that officer had no such power, how could he ever ascertain that companies were acting in good faith. How could he ascertain the facts which the law required him to report, unless this power was given him.—The Law was plain.

Mr. Moore said the debate had risen because of the ambiguity of the question.—He withdrew his appeal.

The Superintendent asked to be allowed to explain his position. He said that if he be allowed to examine the books it must be after the reports had been received.

Mr. Holden wished to amend the question adding the words "with the provisions of the law" to come after the word "you."

Isham Sweat, colored, said that these proceedings aroused his suspicion that gentlemen were determined to prevent investigation. Positions taken by gentlemen upon this floor excited his supicion individually, that they intended to throw obstacles in the way of everything that *might* go to *prove anything*. He wished this assertion to go out to the people of the State. All this quibbling was sustained by the Republican party, who had a majority in the House, tended to show that purposes existed to stave off all examination by offering all kinds of objections and amendments.

The question whether the amendment was in order gave rise to a long debate, pending a decision the committee, on motion arose.

The Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit again. Report adopted.

A message was received from the Governor transmitting a communication from the Treasurer declaring his willingness to put the House in possession of all the information he had, but declining to appear before the Committee of the Whole to be investigated,

Mr. Argo moved to spread the communication and accompanying document on the Journal.

Objection was raised by Mr. Seymour.

The communication and accompanying document was ordered to be printed.

The House then adjourned until 7½ o'clock this evening.

NIGHT SESSION.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY EVENING, Dec. 7.

Mr. Pou moved that the committee adjourn to Thursday next, and make it the special order for 11 o'clock.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Sinclair.

Mr. Moore, of Chowan, objected.

Mr. Malone said: This committee was raised on the motion of the leader of the Republican party in the House, the gentleman from Johnston. Yes, sir, a good Republican who says he glories in the idea that the party was born "amid a halo of glory." I was opposed to going into Committee of the Whole, but when every other proposition was voted down, being willing and anxious to go on with the investigation, I concurred.

The attempt to get a bill passed (offered by myself) to give this committee plenary powers dragged; it took a whole week to get it reported by the Judiciary Committee, and finally, after every conceivable objection had been offered, it passed, and now lies slumbering in the other end of the Capitol; and when it will be passed, if ever, God only knows.

Gentlemen say they do not intend to let the Democrats lead in this matter. Well, I hope they will go on with this investigation. The Superintendent was asked a question, intended to show the *animus* of the Railroad Companies in refusing to *report* or *disclose* to that officer the true condition of their Roads, but *the question was objected to* and the answer not given.

He has done all an honest man can do to get a fair investigation of these affairs, and now turn the matter over to my Republican friends; it is enough for me to say that the people of North Carolina will hold the dominant party to a strict accountability. He denounced the whole thing as a farce.

After some further debate the motion was lost, yeas 16, nays 58.

Mr. Ellington offered a resolution for employing a phonographic reporter for the Committee. Referred.

On motion of Mr. Justice the House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Pou in the Chair.

Mr. Barnett moved that the Committee rise and ask leave to sit again to-morrow morning—not agreed to.

The Superintendent of Public Works then took his place at the bar of the House.

The question recurred on the amendment of Mr. Holden to the question asked by Mr. Malone in the morning session. The amendment was adopted

The Superintendent then answered:

I have been refused trains to inspect some of the roads. I have not been refused the inspection of the books of any of the companies, for I have not asked to be allowed to do so.

Mr. Seymour—State which, if any, of the railroads now in progress of construction in North Carolina you have inspected this fall.

Answer—I have inspected the eastern division of the Western North Carolina Railroad.

Mr. Ames—State by what roads you have been refused trains for the purpose indicated.

A.—The W. C. & R. neglected to furnish a train; the W. & W., and the W. & M. and C. & C. did not reply to a communication requesting trains. The R. & G. also refused.

Mr. Seymour—State what progress had been made in the construction of the eastern division of the W. N. C. road, and what work was going on there at the time of your inspection of that road.

Answer—I only inspected the road as far as Morganton, there being no track laid beyond, except a few miles, and the train does not run regularly to that part of the road.

After a few more unimportant questions, on motion the committee arose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again, which was agreed to.

SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 8, 1869.

CALENDAR.

Resolution authorizing the Public Treasurer to pay to M. A. Bledstone a certain claim he holds against the State.

Mr. Hayes renewed his amendment that was rejected on yesterday, "To require a part of the payment to be made in State bonds at par," which was again rejected. Yeas 16, nays 17.

Mr. Cook moved a recommittal of the resolutions to the Committee on Claims, which was lost.

Mr. Moore, of Carteret, moved its reference to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

A. H. Galloway (col.) called the previous question, which was sustained, and the resolution was rejected.

On motion of of A. H. Galloway, colored, the rules were suspended and the bill to abolish the Special Court of the city of Wilmington was taken up in order to refer it to the Committee on Judiciary.

Mr. Legg presented certain amendments to the bill suggested by a public meeting held in the city of Wilmington, and asked that they might be referred to the same committee.

Bill to amend the several railroad Charters in this State, so as to remove all restrictions in reference to their guage.

Mr. Hayes offered an amendment to provide that said privilege should not apply to various roads.

Mr. Shoffner moved that the bill and amendments be printed and made the special order for to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

Mr. Sweat moved that its further consideration be postponed until the 11th January, 1870.

Pending its consideration the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 8, 1869.

On motion of Mr. Sinclair the rules were supended and his resolution raising a committee of five to manage the investigation before the Committee of the Whole, was taken up and adopted.

FIRST SPECIAL ORDER

The bill creating a Board of Railroad Commissioners, introduced by Mr. French. After some debate the bill was postponed until to-morrow and ordered to be printed.

SECOND SPECIAL ORDER.

The bill in relation to re-endowing the University of the State.

The bill after a long debate was postponed until Jan. 17, 1870.

On motion of Reynolds, colored, the rules were suspended and the bill concerning the compensation of School Committees was taken up.

The question recurred upon a substitute reported by the Education Committee, which was adopted.

The bill then passed its several readings.

The Speaker announced Messrs. Moore, of Chowan, French, Sinclair, Argo and Jarvis as the Special Committee of five to manage the investigation in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Jarvis asked to be excused from serving upon the committee. Every proposition introduced by Conservatives upon this floor for a full and fair investigation had been voted down. Leading Republicans (Seymour and Sinclair) had declared that their party could not afford to allow Democrats to take the lead in this matter, now he wished to give Republicans a full swing.

The proceedings of the Committee of the Whole would show to any one the intention of the dominant party, not to allow certain facts throwing light upon certain railroad matters to be brought out.

Twelve million dollars of bonds had been issued by the State under acts passed by a Republican Legislature. These bonds were placed in the hands of certain men and have been, in part or whole, sold in New York. Months upon months have elapsed, no information is received by the people; what has become of this money, and little or no work is done upon the roads for which the bonds were issued.

The impoverished condition of the people generally, enormous and burdensome taxation and lavish and reckless appropriations of money by the Legislature, were fast educating the public mind to repudiation. To avert such a calamity as repudiation he (Mr. Jarvis) had co-operated with other gentlemen to endeavor to ferret out the parties who were charged with swindling the State to the tune of millions in their misuse and dishonest manipulation of her bonds.

Now that the dominant party in this House had determined (for so it seems by the actions of its leaders) to thwart every measure which might tend to elicit the truth of these charges of fraud; he, as a member of the Conservative side of the House, would not be made a party to such a farcical business as this investigation.—The Republican party were responsible to the people for these appropriations; they were responsible for placing the bonds in the hands of these men charged with fraud, and they must account to the people as best they can. Taking into consideration all these facts and the declaration of the Republican leaders upon this floor, that that party would and must conduct this investigation to suit their party views, therefore he (Mr. J.) would decline any connection with the affair.

Mr. Seymour denied the remarks attributed to him by Mr. Jarvis.

Mr. Durham said he heard the gentleman make the remarks. The Republicans had voted down every measure looking towards an investigation of these frauds, proposed by Democrats. The Committee of the Whole was a Republican measure proposed by a Republican, (Mr. Pou.)—The Conservatives had to vote for this Committee of the Whole or nothing; the dominant party would allow nothing else. Now the action of certain Republicans sustained by their party, plainly indicated an intention not to allow a fair investigation even in the Committee of the Whole. If the Committee had been allowed to proceed to New York, astounding disclosures could have been made, but the Republican party voted it down. Mr. Ellis' proposition was also voted down by the same party. Now as the gentlemen from Craven, (Mr. Seymour,) and Robeson, (Mr. Sinclair,) had declared that the Republicans could not afford to allow Democrats to lead in this investigation, they (the Democrats) proposed to have nothing to do with the matter and let Republicans manage the whole matter.

He hoped the gentleman from Tyrell (Jarvis) would be excused.

Mr. Moore, of Chowan, insisted that Democrats were responsible for the Committee of the Whole being raised.

Mr. Sinclair explained his position in the matter.

Mr. Argo hoped the gentleman would be excused, and proceeded to state the position of matters in the same way as did Messrs. Durham and Jarvis. He for good reasons would not decline serving upon the Committee.

Mr. Jarvis said the Republican party was on trial, and he was in favor of giving the party an opportunity of defending itself. He was appointed on a Committee raised to consider a proposition of the gentleman from New Hanover, and he asked to be excused, and the gentleman desires not to allow him to be excused, but desired to compel him to aid in defence of the Republican party. He was told he could participate in the investigation, and ask any question he pleased. But questions were not allowed to be answered.—The Treasurer was asked to whom the interest on the bonds had been paid. He stood before the House for an hour and the question was never answered.

Mr. Welch said he hoped that the gentleman would be excused, &c. Charges had been made by certain Republicans, that the Democratic members were attempting to dodge out of this investigation. I pronounce this a vile slander.—The facts are that Republicans voted down every other mode of investigation and would have the Committee of the Whole. The Democrats seeing that Republicans would allow nothing else, were compelled to vote for that measure.

He (Mr. Welch) had introduced resolutions allowing Republicans to appoint the Committee to investigate these alleged frauds, Republican members of this House offered amendment after amendment which I accepted to do away with the charge that I was actuated by partisan motives, and seeing that my resolutions would not be accepted, I accepted a substitute naming a committee, composed of a maiority of Republicans. This substitute was rejected by the dominant party then and not until then, did Conservatives vote for the Committee of the Whole.

He (Mr. Welch,) thought, notwithstanding all protestations and denials to the contrary, that the Republicans had so acted in this matter as to convince any reasonable man that if fraud did exist, this Committee would not be permitted to ferret it out.

Mr. Durham said it amused him to see Republicans squirming and wriggling so.

After some debate Mr. Jarvis was excused, and Mr. Malone substituted in his place.

By consent Mr. Robinson introduced a resolution concerning the act providing for a systsm of public instruction. Referred.

(This resolution will be published in full shortly.)

The House then adjourned.

SENATE.

THURSDAY, Dec. 9, 1869.

Mr. Graham, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a substitute for the bill to abolish the Special Court of the city of Wilmington, entitled "an act to extend the jurisdiction of the Special Court of the city of Wilmington" recommending its adoption.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

By Mr. Barnes, a bill to incorporate the Wilson Collegiate Seminary for young ladies. Referred.

By Mr. Murphy, a bill to incorporate the Franconia Manufacturing Company in the county of Duplin. Referred.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

The consideration of the bill to amend the Charter of the several Railroads, removing all restrictions in reference to guage, was resumed and the motion of Mr. Sweet to postpone its further consideration until the 11th of January prevailed.

SPECIAL ORDER.

Bill to abolish the Special Court of the City of Wilmington, with a substitute from the Committee on the Judiciary, entitled an act to extend the jurisdiction of the Special Court of the city of Wilmington was taken up, the substitute was adopted, the title of the bill was changed, and the bill was amended by submitting the question to a vote of the people, and passed its several readings.

CALENDAR.

Resolutions proposing that the General Assembly adjourn *sine die* on the 20th of this month. Passed, ayes 24, nays 15.

Mr. Shoffner moved a reconsideration of the vote, which prevailed. Ayes 22, nays 13.

Mr. Moore, of Carteret moved that the resolution be indefinitely postponed, which motion prevailed.

In explanation of his vote, Mr. Jones, of Mecklenburg, said he had always advocated a short session and had hoped that the General Assembly would have adjourned *sine die* before the Christmas holidays, but against the protests of the Conservatives the Senate adjourned the question of its tenure of office into the Supreme Court for decision, and as yet the General Assembly has made no provision for a general election of members of the General Assembly on the first Thursday in August, 1870, and until it does so, I, for one, cost what it may, shall not vote to adjourn this body. I therefore cast my vote in the affirmative on the motion to indefinitely postpone.

A message refusing to concur in the adoption of a substitute for a bill relating to apprentices. On motion the Senate refused to recede.

On motion, the vote was reconsidered by which the resolution authorizing the Treasurer to pay M. A. Bledsoe $5,373 47, it being the amount allowed him by the Supreme Court on a claim he held against the State.

Mr. Welker moved to amend the resolution by striking out the sum therein mentioned, and insert $3,330 20.

The Chair decided the question devisible.

The previous question was called and sustained, the motion to strike out prevailed, the amendment was adopted, and the resolution passed its final reading—ayes 27, nays 11.

On motion, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, Dec. 9, 1869.

RESOLUTIONS AND BILLS.

By Mr. Sinclair, a bill to amend the act in favor of Reuben King. Lies over.

By Mr. French, a bill increasing the powers of the Mayor and Aldermen of Wilmington. Referred.

By Mr. High, a bill to authorize the Commissioners of Columbus county to levy a special tax. Lies over.

By Mr. Williams, of Harnett, a bill to incorporate the Lumber River Navigation Co. Referred.

By Parker Robbins, (col.) a bill to prevent distinction being made on account of color on steamboats. Referred.

CALENDAR.

On motion of Mr. Sinclair the rules were suspended, and the bill amending the act in favor of Reuben King, former Sheriff of Robeson county, was taken up and passed its several readings.

On motion of Mr. Stilley the rules were suspended, and the Senate bill to require Bank bills to be received in payment of judgments rendered by the old Banks on certain contracts, was taken up and passed its several readings.

Mr. Moore, of Chowan, for the special Committee, to whom was referred the resolution raising a Committee of five to manage the investigation before the Committee of the Whole, reported favorably upon the same with amendments.

Mr. Moore, for the same Committee, reported unfavorably on Mr. French's bill creating a board of Railroad Companies.

Mr. French submitted a minority report signed by himself and Mr. Sinclair, recommending that his (French's) bill be continued on the calendar and that if the Committee of the Whole was to be continued, that the resolution raising a managing Committee be adopted.

Mr. Pou moved that the going into the Committee of the Whole be postponed until the State took action upon the bill enforcing the attendance of witnesses, &c.

After some discussion a postponement until Monday next was agreed upon.

Mr. Moore, of Chowan, offered a resolution that the House will, from and after Monday next, hold evening sessions, to prosecute the examination pending in the Committee of the Whole.

The rules were suspended and the resolution adopted.

By J. S. Lee, colored—A bill to amend the charter of the town of Fayetteville. Referred.

Mr. Moore, of Chowan, for Finance Committee, reported favorably upon the bill in favor of the Sheriff of Cumberland.

The rules were suspended and the report of the committee was concurred in, and the bill passed its several readings.

By Mr. Shaver—A joint resolution that the General Assembly adjourn *sine die* on the 20th of December, 1869.

Lies over.

SPECIAL ORDER.

Bill creatng a Board of Railroad Commissioners for the State.

Mr. Downing moved that the majority report of the special committee to whom this bill was referred be adopted. He opposed the bill on the ground that it would create a new phase in the administration of the affairs of the State, and would entail new and large expenses, and would take away duties legally devolving on the Superintendent of Public Works.

Mr. French moved to postpone the bill until the

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

WILMINGTON, N. C.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1869.

Democratic vs. Radical Promises.

One day last week the Democratic Legislature of Tennessee resolved to pay the State debt to the last dollar in hard money. The next day her securities of all grades advanced in value, and they are still going up.

Under the combined influences of a Radical Governor's promises, and the ordinances and resolutions of Radical Constitutional Conventions and Legislatures to pay principal and interest upon the State debt, North Carolina securities of all grades have become almost worthless, and are daily growing worse.

The credit of Tennessee is being restored by Democratic reformations and economy in the administration of the State Government. In North Carolina her credit is being destroyed by Radical corruptions and extravagances. The promises of the former restore confidence—those of the latter are not regarded. "Stick a pin there."

The Bench and the Press.

We learn from the Tarboro' *North Carolinian* that Captain BIGGS answered the rule for a contempt of Court growing out of an article in the local columns of the Tarboro' *Southerner*, of which paper Captain BIGGS is editor-in-chief. His answer was that he published the article referred to as an editor, and not in the character of an attorney; that he had always respected the Bench, and paid His Honor on the Bench that respect due his position as a judicial officer, and that in penning the objectionable article he intended no contempt of Court, and as an attorney does not conceive that he committed a contempt.

Judge Jones ruled otherwise, and the rule debarring Captain BIGGS from practicing in his Court was made perpetual.

Such is the record of one of the most high-handed and outrageous transactions ever perpetrated in the name and under the authority of law in North Carolina. A man who has brought contempt upon himself and his official position punishes a lawyer for an article in the paper of which he is the editor. He vainly attempts in the violent vindication of the dignity of the Bench to wipe out the recollection of the disgrace he has brought upon it.

"The freedom of the press," says the Declaration of Rights, "is one of the great bulwarks of liberty, and therefore ought never to be restrained."

North Carolina Special Tax State Bonds.

The carpet-baggers appear to have got possession of these securities; for we hear of them in every out-of-the-way nook and corner. A large quantity, it is said, has been gambled away by one of the railway presidents of the unfortunate State of North Carolina. These bonds were issued in aid of existing roads and to build new ones; but instead of being delivered, as was required by the exigencies of the work, were handed by the bushel basket to officers of the companies, who seem to be having a good time with them. They have sold them down to twenty-seven, and where they will stop remains to be seen. Had not the State better 'stop" before it is too late? Where is the committee of investigation which was coming North to inquire about them?
N. Y. Herald.

There is food for reflection in this little article. Short as it is, it tells of the credit of a State destroyed, and the prospects of a people brought to the verge of ruin. It contains charges which ought to be investigated, and questions which should be answered.

How comes our Special Tax Bonds "in every out-of-the-way nook and corner?" Upon what authority is it said that a large quantity of these bonds "has been gambled away by one of the railway presidents of the unfortunate State of North Carolina?" We, too, have heard this same statement. Is it true? Have our Bonds been placed in the hands of gamblers? Is this report based upon positive knowledge, or upon the past bad character of the said president? Why does the *Herald* call North Carolina *unfortunate?* Where is the committee which was raised to be sent to New York to investigate these very charges? Or where is any efficient or practical method to ferret out these frauds?

Yes, *unfortunate* North Carolina had better "stop" before it is too late—before her means have been so squandered that the ability of her citizens will be unable to pay the debts of the State; before her people are compelled to repudiate it. But how stop? Good men have vainly endeavored to apply the breaks. The "bushel baskets" have been, and are being, rapidly emptied by the officials, and their "good time" continues. Protected by party friends in the Legislature—many of them doubtless parties to the frauds—they laugh at the efforts of honest men to expose their crimes. Yes, it is high time for us to stop; and stop we must, even if it is done by measures as violent as those which have saddled these burdens upon us.

Removal of Disabilities.

We publish this morning a long list of names of North Carolinians whose disabilities have been removed by Congress. A like list from each of the Southern States was also embraced in the bill. We take it for granted that Congress will not much longer waste time and undergo the annoyance of grinding out pardons by the retail. Every Congressman and Senator have their quota of friends whose disabilities they desire to have removed, either from political or personal motives. While elections were pending and the bitterness engendered by the war and by prejudices were rife, Congress was very chary in granting these requests, but now that party necessities no longer require this vigilance, and time has somewhat mollified hostile feelings, we do not think that our National Legislature will continue to hawk its pardons to such supplicants as will pay most freely in money or in the humility and duplicity with which they make their bids.

The leading Republican papers and speakers of the North now advocate the justice and necessity of a general removal of disabilities. They say that the test-oath and disability legislation of Congress, like its reconstruction legislation, was of a temporary character, designed for a specific end. That end being accomplished, or will be with the admission of Virginia, Texas and Mississippi, and the manipulation of Georgia, so as to make certain the adoption of the Fifteenth Amendment, and the Union being restored upon the orthodox plan of Congress, and all opposition being defeated, and Radical success being secured for many years to come, at least so far as present legislation can secure it, they generously think that all restrictive legislation should be revised, and, as far as party ends can safely admit of, rescinded. The New York *Times*, which is supposed to speak in the confidence of General GRANT, says: "The true, large-hearted, liberal, magnanimous policy for Congress—the policy worthy of a great and strong nation—is to strike off all disabilities at one blow."

The policy adopted by Congress towards the South after the war was neither patriotic, wise nor Christian. Our section has been kept impoverished and the welfare of the whole country retarded by the bitter and relentless proscriptions to which the South has been subjected. In a material point of view it is impossible to calculate the loss which the entire country has suffered. But the alienation and bitter feelings which the inhumanity of the Government has engendered between the sections is a much more serious consideration. It will remain long after material evidences of the war have been obliterated.

When the Thebans had conquered the Lacedæmonians they proposed to erect a brazen monument in honor of their victory. The Amphictyonic Council (the Congress of Greece) forbade it in a spirit of patriotism and wisdom, which has immortalized their action. They replied to the proposition: "Let there be nothing done to perpetuate the fact there ever was strife between Greek and Greek." How much better would it have been if our Christian Congress could have learned a lesson of statesmanship and practical Christianity from this heathen Council. Even now it will do much good if they will obliterate the more offensive and harsher evidences of their prejudices and hatreds. It would be accepted as a good token for the future if their monuments of vindictiveness were now destroyed, and none others erected in their place.

We believe the country, North and South, is now ready for general amnesty—to give and receive. It is time that Congress should make true the assertion of the President that this is the freest country on the Globe—in fact as well as theory. It is a good season to proclaim political freedom to every citizen of this Union.

Increasing the Debt.

We see our Legislature has resolved not to increase the public debt of the State. We accept the good intentions of the body, but in view of the fact that capitalists would hardly trust North Carolina for any further amounts, we do not fully appreciate the necessity for the resolution at this late day.

But we would like to know how the Legislature will get around the fact that the taxes levied this year will not pay more than the current expenses of the State Government. Consequently the debt must be increased about one million of dollars, being the unpaid interest upon our bonds. About six hundred thousand dollars were collected by taxes, over and above the special tax levied, from the people of North Carolina. All this has been absorbed by the ordinary and extraordinary expenses of the Government. The Auditor's account discloses the startling fact that the Treasurer reports *seventy-six thousand dollars* spent for "contingencies." How is it possible, under such a state of things, to stop the increase of the public debt. Governor HOLDEN and his Legislature know well enough that the people cannot, without utter and final ruin, be taxed to pay the interest on thirty-five millions of dollars of debt, and the enormous expenses of their present Government, to say nothing of Federal taxes. They intend to force the people into repudiation, and they are doing so very rapidly.

Taxation.

The people of the whole Union looked with much reason to the present Congress for a reduction of taxes. During the continuance of the war, and immediately after its close, all good citizens submitted to the taxes necessary to carry on the war, both Federal and Confederate, and have waited until they had well supposed the expenses of the Government could be reduced to a peace footing. All eyes were turned to the message of President GRANT and the report of Secretary BOUTWELL, for some plan by which Federal taxation could be reduced. They have looked in vain. The energies of the people are overburdened, and the resources of the country heavily taxed to support the extravagancies and corruptions of the Government, and there seems to be no hope of an early relief.

All accounts from Washington, says the Baltimore *Gazette*, in discussing this subject, go to prove that no relief is to be expected from the present Congress in the matter of taxation. All the most onerous duties are to be retained. The manufacturing monopolies are to be fostered and encouraged. There is some talk of reducing the duty on bituminous coal, which can be had now in quantities at five dollars a ton, whilst the anthracite, which will not be materially affected by the reduction, is selling at about nine dollars. It is also proposed to reduce the duty on tea, coffee and sugar; but as the whole extent of the reduction will not exceed one and a quarter million of dollars, the difference to consumers will scarcely be felt. With respect to manufactured goods, and the raw material of which they are composed, the present tariff is not only to be maintained, but in some instances the duty is to be increased. What, therefore, is taken off a few articles that enter into general consumption, is to be put upon other articles that enter into general use.

The people ask to be relieved from the enormous burthen of taxation, but Mr. BOUTWELL says, No! and President GRANT asks Congress to let the tariff laws remain as they are for one year longer. The response of Congress is to propose limited concessions in one direction, and to pile on heavier duties in another. The protective policy is to be maintained in all its rigor. The manufacturing interests of New England are to be consulted in all things; the producing interests of the West and the South are to be overslaughed. The whole financial and industrial policy of the Government is directed and controlled by the capitalists and manufacturers of the Eastern States; the mine owners of Pennsylvania and Lake Superior; the lumbermen of Maine; the wool growers of Vermont, and the salt makers of Syracuse and Grand Rapids. Every article of wearing apparel; every sort of woven fabric required by the household; every thing that is composed, in whole or in part, of iron, or steel, or copper, or brass, or wood, has been made the subject of special legislation. At the last session of Congress it was proposed to make a redistribution of the currency of the National Banks, so that the West and South should obtain a reasonable proportion of it. But nothing was done. The bankers of the New England States protested against any change, and Congress abandoned the project.

In the history of Congressional legislation, from the earliest days to the present time, the grasping, selfish, domineering spirit of the North everywhere crops out. As it has been, and now is, so it will continue to be until the influence of New England upon the politics of the Western States is broken down. The true interests of the people of that now populous region are adverse to the protectionist doctrines of New England. Owing to the high price of all dutiable articles, the increase of local taxation, the increase in the rate of wages, the increase in the cost of transportation, and in commissions and charges for handling when produce is forwarded to market, no Western farmer living at all remote from a market can now raise any of the cereals to a profit. Wheat in Iowa at thirty cents a bushel, and at many other places between St. Paul and Chicago at not more than fifty cents a bushel, means simply that not only has the farmer thrown away a year's labor, but that, instead of reaping a profit, he has suffered a loss. And this downward road he must continue to travel so long as he blindly follows the leadership of New England politicians, and consents, to his own injury, to buy in the dearest market and sell in the cheapest.

OUR INSURANCE COMPANIES.

HOW LIFE INSURANCE IS MANAGED IN THIS COUNTRY.

THE EQUITABLE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.

EXHIBIT AT THE CLOSE OF ITS FIRST DECADE.

THE system of Life Assurance illustrates how closely human ingenuity has realized in these latter days the extravagant dreams of the old philosophers. A large number of men combine, to pay yearly, or at shorter periods, a small sum each to form a fund out of which the representatives of each deceased member shall receive a stated larger sum. The immutable law of averages determines the number who will die within a given time, and affords a fixed and safe basis of calculation. The individual is thus able, practically, to extend his life to the average duration of mankind, in securing to his family and dependents, with mathematical certainty, the full pecuniary benefit and support which would result to them were his active life thus really prolonged, and to receive the actual benefit of a just equalization of property. The sudden and unprecedented extension of the system is a remarkable fact in the history of modern civilization; in the difficulties encountered and the victories achieved in its origin and development, it rivals in interest the great material triumphs which are so constantly the subject of our admiration. This is remarkably exemplified in the history of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, which has just closed its first decade, as "It marks and distinguishes," says the Superintendent of the New York Insurance Department, "the commencement of the recent astounding progress in the business of life insurance."

Ten years ago there was then but five life insurance companies existing in the State of New York, and but two of these were issuing policies exceeding one thousand in number per annum. The new Insurance Department of the State had just been created by act of legislature. Six years had elapsed since the passage of the act for the incorporation of life and health insurance companies, and not one as yet had been organized under its liberal provisions. But little enterprise, comparatively, was exhibited in the business, and it was just the time for the advent of a company which, by its liberal policy and vigorous action, should inaugurate a new period in life insurance; and such a company the orignators of the Equitable determined to found. Ten years ago, however, new companies could not, as now, start suddenly into full-fledged existence, with magnificent apartments and a full corps of high-salaried officials. Indeed, there was great difficulty in getting even the one hundred thousand dollars subscribed, which the laws of the State require to be deposited with the Insurance Department, as security for the payment of claims—a difficulty not arising from any objection to insurance stocks, which in some companies were known to be a profitable kind of investment, but because it was determined that in the organization of a new company, its stockholders should receive but legal interest, and that ALL PROFITS of the enterprise should revert to the policy holders. The orignators of the Equitable had also wisely resolved to connect with the organization only men of the highest character in business and benevolent circles, as if the stability of the company, like that of a mechanical structure which is no stronger than its weakest part, were to be dependent upon the reputation of each individual director. The difficulty of enlisting a sufficient number of men of such character in a project whose success was problematical may be easily conceived. Numerous preliminary meetings were held by those who joined the enterprise in its incipiency, and here strong efforts were made to divide at least ten per cent. of the profits among the stockholders: against this proposition all further proceedings were promptly and successfully staked; the new company should exist as a benevolent institution for the benefit of the assured, and not as a speculative corporation for the benefit of stockholders—or it should have no existence at all. Parties favoring such disposition of the profits thereupon withdrew their names, and the subscription, which had reached the sum of $75,000, receded to $60,000. With great exertions this sum was increased to about $85,000, and at this point Mr. Henry G. Marquand came to the help of the struggling enterprise, advancing one sum, the required balance. The organization of the Company was completed by the election of the Hon. William C. Alexander, as President, Mr. Henry B. Hyde, as Vice President, and Mr. George W. Phillips, as Actuary. All connected with the enterprise, and none more promptly than the founder of the Society himself, recognized the value to the Company of Mr. Alexander's name and influence. He was descended from one of the oldest families of Virginia, was the son of the late Rev. Dr. Archibald Alexander, of Princeton, had presided over the Senate of the State of New Jersey, and was widely known and appreciated in the first social circles and benevolent enterprises of the country. He brought to the new Society an influence which alone would inspire confidence in its stability and in the integrity of its aims. Mr. James W. Alexander, of New York City, was subsequently elected to the position of Secretary, and was identified with his associates in all those plans which have carried the Equitable to its unexampled height of prosperity.

There was a strong effort made when the Company was in process of formation, to organize it upon the NOTE BASIS; this project was defeated, the officers of the Company being strenuously opposed to what they considered the inherent defects of this system. It was also determined that the Society should start solely upon its merits, and not upon any factitious basis, such as a magnificent building alone would be. Rooms were, therefore, taken at 92 Broadway, at a low rent, and on ten years's lease, another fortunate operation for the new Company, as at the expiration of the lease the rate had advanced fourfold; and here, with two mere lads for clerks, each upon a salary of one hundred dollars—both of whom now perform important and valuable duties in the Company's service—with an expense for rent, for salaries of President, Vice-President, and Actuary not altogether exceeding five thousand dollars, but without a dollar in its treasury, and with the individual credit of its Vice-President pledged to meet the premiums on bonds deposited with the Insurance Department, the new Society started on its career of usefulness and honor.

Such a beginning, in a popular view, might be considered by no means a brilliant one, and these details would possess no interest but for the contrast afforded in the unparalleled success of the Society at the close of its first decade. It will be observed, however, that its foundations were laid in broad and liberal principles; its primary idea, the confidence of the public in men whose established reputation, position, and skill offer the highest guarantee that sacred trust will be safe in their hands; its plan of insurance, the usual one of equitably dividing ALL of the profits among the assured. Upon such a basis the Society promised to be nothing less than a grand, mutual benevolent institution, in which the interest of all concerned, officers, stock-holders, and policy-holders were identical, and ten year's career of the Equitable has abundantly justified such a theory of its organization.

On the 23d day of July, 1859, the Society issued its first policy; it was for ten thousand dollars, the party insured is still living and the policy is still in force.—During the remaining five months of the year, 277 policies were issued, insuring $1,178,000, and affording premium receipts to the amount of $23,700 76. The progress of the two years immediately succeeding was not remarkable, but with the business of 1862 began the grand advance in which the figures of insurance rolled up during each succeeding year in an almost geometrical ratio. The sum insured in 1862 was $2,853,450; in 1863, $4,591,900; in 1864, $8,758,550; in 1865, $13,748,650; in 1866, $30,072,450; in 1867, $45,453,700; in 1868. $51,891,825! These astounding figures are still more strking as showing the relative rank which they gave the Company each successive year. In 1860, in amount of new business, it was the ninth among American companies; in 1861 it was eighth; in 1862 and 1863, the seventh; in 1864 and 1865, the sixth; in 1866, the fourth; in 1867, the third; in 1868, THE SECOND! and it is not improbable that the close of the current year will find it, for amount of new business done, the FOREMOST COMPANY IN THE WORLD! The business of 1868 exceeded the total done by the Company during its first seven years, yet those seven years were unparalleled for extent of business by the first seven years of the existence of any other company. Within twelve months over eight millions have been issued in a single month, or more than the Society insured during its first 3½ years. Its assets now reach the royal sum of TEN MILLIONS of DOLLARS, and its yearly income is now not less than six millions!

The wonderful progress of the Society may be shown in another way. In 1862, three years after the organization of the Equitable, the Mutual Life Insurance Company, one of the oldest of the prominent American companies, had been in existence twenty years. Its assets were then $9,175,177 43; amount at risk, $40,051,-704; policies issued during the year, 1,840; amount of insurance written during the year, $4.814,218; total income for the year, $1,755,285 51. With this company, at twenty years of age, compare the Equitable at nine, viz.: assets, $7,721,077 02; amount at risk, $112,556,223; policies written during the year, 11,986; amount of insurance written during the year, $51,-891,825; total income for the year, $4,-840,157 46. A comparison with any one of the older leading companies would exhibit the Equitable in even a more favorable light, as in amount of business it was year by year far in advance of the relative years of any other companies.

The following figures, taken from the reports of the New York Insurance Department, exhibit the business of the Equitable as compared with that of all other companies operating in the State during 1868. Average number of policies issued by all other companies, 3,769; issued by the Equitable, 11,986; average amount insured, $10,827,367; insured by the Equitable, $51,891,825; average total income, $1,505,985; income of Equitable, $4,840,-157; average total assets, $3,337,852; assets of Equitable, $7,721,077; average dividends paid, $241,830; dividends paid by Equitable, $849,979. Compared with the business transacted by foreign companies, the contrast is still more striking; during 1868 the Equitable insured very nearly as large an amount as the aggregate of all the life insurance companies of Great Britain combined!

A remarkable feature of the business of the Society is the large average amount insured in its policies, largely exceeding that of any other company in the world. This average in 1868 was $4,329, the average of all other American companies ranging from $1,846 to $3,083. This large average amount insured in the policies of the Equitable is due to the fact that wealthy men, as a class, take policies in the Society FOR PURPOSES OF INVESTMENT to a greater extent than in any other company, a fact that has a remote but important bearing upon the low rate of mortality among its policy-holders, as it is evident that men who are able to carry large premiums are not likely to be compelled to remain in the vicinity of epidemics, and that in all cases of sickness their medical attendance and care will be the best.

That this immense volume of business has not been accumulated by the Equitable at any sacrifice of economy in management, or want of sound discretion in the selection of risks, will be seen from its low percentage of expenditures—including death claims and expenses, but exclusive of profit dividends—to cash premium receipts, and by a comparison of this percentage with those of other American companies. This percentage in the Equitable has been a trifle over 37 per cent., the smallest percentage of any other company being over 43 per cent., and the figures ranging through the entire list from this point to 83 per cent. It is worthy of remark in this connection, that of the fifty-two persons who constituted its first board of direction, thirty-nine are still members of the board, and that during the first decade of the Society's existence, but two directors have been removed by death.

If amount of insurance is any criterion of popularity, no company in the world has ever within the same relative period experienced such a degree of public favor and confidence. The original force of two youthful clerks is now represented by a corps of some sixty gentlemen, exclusive of officers and agents, now required to transact its current routine business. It has outgrown its offices, and any accommodations obtainable in any building at its disposal in New York. As its first decade approached a close, greatly enlarged facility became thus an unavoidable necessity, and the erection of the Society's new building, now nearly completed, on the southeast corner of Cedar street and Broadway—a building which for massive grandeur and general fitness for its purpose is probably not surpassed by any commercial building in the world—marks the culmination of its substantial triumphs. This structure is an elegant specimen of the renaissance style of architecture, so generally used by Baron Haussman in the embellishment of modern Paris. Its frontage on Broadway is 87 feet, and on Cedar street 137 feet. The material used in its construction is Quincy granite for the basement story, and for the rest of the building white Concord granite, the noblest possible material for so large a structure, giving it a grand and massive effect. The approach to the basement is through the central entrance on Broadway, the stairs to the main floor starting on either side of the doorway, virtually throwing the basement rooms into Broadway, and thus giving them an increased value. The first or principal floor is 19 feet high, and contains three banking rooms, which are to be fitted up in the most complete manner, the largest being 32x100, and the others each 30x55. Over this are the offices of the Company. The grand business hall, which, when finished, will be one of the most imposing in the country, is 26 feet high, and 25x105, lighted by two large skylights and through the glass partitions of the officers' and agents' rooms, which are ranged in two stories about the hall, the upper tier being approached by a gallery. The department of clerks is to be in the center of the grand hall. The officers' rooms occupy the entire front, and will be connected by sliding doors, so as to be thrown, when required, into one large room for directors' meetings. On the second or gallery floor, and connected with the steam lift, is a lunch room 25x30, for the Company's clerks. Above the offices of the Company are four stories, each about twelve feet high, and each divided into 16 offices, 14x 20 in size, so arranged as to be let singly or in suites, all fitted with complete toilet arrangements, and some with safes. The general safe-rooms are near those of the officers, and will be at all times under their control. The entire building is STRICTLY FIRE-PROOF. At the Cedar Street entrance two steam elevators will be kept running for the convenience of the occupants of the building and those transacting business with them—a new and praiseworthy feature, which the leg-weary will not fail to appreciate.

"The plan of insurance of the Equitable Society," remarks Dr. Irenæus Prime, "is probably as nearly perfect as anything human can be." The premiums are invariably payable in cash. It issues ordinary life-policies, life-policies which are to be paid up in five, ten, fifteen, or twenty annual premiums; Tontine-dividend policies; ordinary endowment policies payable at death or at the expiration of a specified number of years, and endowments in like manner which may be paid up in one, five, or ten payments; joint-life policies; term policies; children's endowments; annuities with or without profits, survivorship annuities. All five and ten payment policies, whether life or endowment, are non-forfeitable, after two annual premiums have been paid, for as many fifths or tenths respectively as there shall have been full yearly payments made, and ordinary life and joint-life policies are non-forfeitable for an equitable amount after three full annual payments have been made. Life and endowment policies, the premiums on which are payable during a stipulated period longer than ten years, are forfeitable after three annual premiums have been paid. These policies may all be drawn in favor of the assured to be disposed of by will, administration or assignment; or they may be drawn in favor of wife; wife and children; intended wife; any near relative; a creditor; mortgagee; partner in business firm, of which the assured is a member, and others. All profits of insurance, the surplus funds of the Society—are annually divided among the policy-holders only, in the form of dividends and in exact proportion to individual contribution to those funds. These dividends may be applied, at the choice of the policy-holder in any one of the five different ways, viz: to an addition to the amount assured, payable only in case of death within a specified number of years; to a reduction in the amount of all subsequent premiums; to a larger reduction in the amount of premium for one year or more; to a limitation of the number of premiums required, so that premiums may cease at a comparatively early age:—and the selection of one way in any one year does not restrict the right of choice in any subsequent year.

The Tontine-dividend system, a method of insurance not hitherto practiced by any other company, illustrates the peculiarities of life assurance as a profitable form of investment. The system originated with the Actuary of the Equitable, and has received the highest commendation from the Superintendent of the Insurance Department and from a large number of capitalists and prominent business men; the former has expressed the opinion "that it will popularize life assurance to a degree hitherto unknown." It is evident that in case of the early death of a policy-holder, although the tables are adjusted to meet such an exigency, the Company, or in other words the SURVIVING ASSURED realize no money from the transaction. The representative of the deceased policy-holder, on the other hand, have received in the face of the policy alone, it may be, a profit of 500 or even 5000 per cent.; it seems equitable, therefore, that having paid but few premiums he should receive no further sum in the way of dividends, but that these accumulations should be eventually given to those who pay premiums a long series of years, enabling them to realize on their outlay a profit approximating to that of those dying early. This is done in the Tontine system. The premiums of all persons insuring on this plan are theoretically compounded at ten per cent. per annum until they shall amount to the face of the policies respectively, a period varying according to the ages of the assured; for one insuring at 35 it is a fraction over 15 years. During this period the annual dividends on all tontine policies are set apart as a fund belonging to this class. All who die before the expiration of the period receive only the face of their policies, the accumulations going solely to the survivors of this period in the shape of reduction of premiums thereafter and eventually in cash annuities. The best actuaries have calculated that the dividends on such policies will be three or four times greater than have hitherto been declared by any company, and the system presents peculiar advantages to those who are of long-lived families, to those who have mortgaged estates, and to all recipients of large incomes who are unale to accumulate to the point of independence.

Much of the unprecedented success of the Equitable is owing to the genius and energy of its officers and to the disinterested liberality of its directors, who have been from the first self-constituted gratuitous agents, in extending the benefits of the system among the families of their acquaintances, and in advancing the Society as a purely benevolent institution. There are other elements not perhaps entirely distinct from those we have mentioned without which a successful career could not be maintained. Great volume of business is not conclusive evidence of great prosperity. There must be the utmost care in the selection of risks; liberality in settling claims must be consistent with the interest of living policy-holders, and the management of its vast accumulations place future solvency beyond the remotest question. The Equitable has paid in death claims and dividends over three and a half millions. Its small percentage of expenditures to premium receipts, which is less than is called for by its actuarial tables, is the consequence of the care exercised in the selection of lives. No application for insurance is passed until the general character of the medical examiner, his system, standing and length of practice in the profession, the time and place of graduation, his age, and the population and characteristic diseases of his locality are ascertained by certificates and references. These facts are preserved in voluminous records and constitute a bureau of medical standing and character.—The Equitable was also among the first to recognize and reward the valuable services of its agents.

Upon the management of the vast pecuniary resources of an assurance society, however, the public justly look with the most jealous eye. These funds, under the conditions of insurance are the property of the policy-holders, or those in whose favor the assurance is made; under a rightfully conducted system no one else has any interest in them, present or contingent. These accumulations largely represent the lifelong savings of economy and thrift, and in thousands of cases are relied upon as the only support of the helpless and dependent. No more sacred trust is conceivable than the management of such resources, and no other fiduciary relation demands the exercise of higher integrity or greater financial ability. According to DeMorgan, "there is nothing in the commercial world which approaches, even remotely, the security of a well established and prudently managed life assurance company." The management of its finances, accumulating with such unexpected and unexampled rapidity, has been the crowning triumph of the Equitable Society. The original one hundred thousand dollars, deposited with the Insurance Department as a perpetual security for the payment of losses, being invested in United States bonds, the interest on which alone is received by the stockholders, this security is in fact maintained gratuitously. That portion of the new building not required for the use of the Society will pay the interest of the entire investment, and give the Society its spiendid offices FREE OF RENT. The remainder of its ten millions of assets is invested in loans on bond and mortgage improved property, worth more than double the amount of the loans, United States securities, and in New York State and City Bonds, of which more than one-half is in loans on bond and mortgage. These securities are all registered; nobody can steal them; their destruction would involve no loss; there is, in fact, nothing beyond the results of the current transactions of the day, which speculation or mismanagement could make way with. In addition to this, all of the most important affairs of the Society are administered by committees of its directors.—Thus, its finances are entirely under the control of a committee of six directors, which, in conjunction with the president, has the direction of all investments, both permanent and temporary, of all changes in such investments, and it has the superintendence of the manner in which accounts shall be kept. This committee now consists of the following well-known business men:—

Robert Lennox Kennedy, (President National Bank of Commerce) New York, Chairman; John Auchincloss, of John and Hugh Auchincloss; Willam G. Lambert, of George C. Richardson & Co.; Hon. Dudley S. Gregory, Jersey City, N. J.; William T. Blodgett, New York; George D. Morgan, 56 Exchange Place, New York.

The duties of this committee are not merely nominal; it meets at least four times each year, at regular intervals, examines all securities in detail, and reports the financial condition of the Society to the Board of Directors. In addition to these precautions, at the close of each fiscal year there is appointed five directors, who are not members of the finance committee. It is their duty ta make a minute examination of the accounts and the assets of the Society, and report the same in full to the directors. The following named gentlemen served last on this committee.

Samuel W. Torrey, New Jersey; John J. Donaldson, President National Bank of North America; Hon. Bennington F. Randolph, New Jersey; Thos. A. Cummins, late of Cummins, Seaman & Co.

There is also a standing committee on accounts, consisting of five, which meets at least once a quarter, to examine and audit all accounts and payments prior to each quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors. This committee now comprises Messrs.—

Hon. B. F. Randolph, of Jersey City, Chairman; Alanson Trask, of A. & A. G. Trask; John T. Moore, 331 Broadway, N. Y.; Samuel W. Torrey, New Jersey; John Sloane, of W. & J. Sloane.

A committee of five, which meets monthly or oftener, as required, and whose province is to consult and advise with the officers in all matters relative to insurance and the adjustment and settlement of claims for losses, now consists of Messrs.

Peter McMartin, 168 Fifth Avenue, Chairman; Thomas U. Smith, of Smith, Henry & Sheffield; Daniel D. Lord, of Lord, Day & Lord; John Slade, of John Slade & Co.; Edward W. Lambert, M. D., 330 Sixth Avenue.

There is also a Standing Committee, which meets monthly, or more frequently, whose special duty it is to investigate the standing of applicants for agencies, to make appointments, recommend changes, and take action in cases wherein agents may not have proved in all respects satisfactory. This committee is composed of Messrs.

James M. Halstead, President American Fire Ins. Co.; Thomas S. Young, of T. S. Young & Co.; Moses A. Hoppock, of M. A. Hoppock & Co; Henry S. Terbell, of H. S. Terbell & Co.; Charles J. Martin, Prest. Home Fire Ins. Co.; Thomas A. Cummings, Everett House, N. Y.

It will thus be seen that all of the most important departments of the Society's business are under the direct supervision of business men of the highest standing, and that this subdivision of authority and responsibility among its important committees insures the most prudent management of the interests and trusts confided to his care. It is needless to remark that during the decade just closed no extraordinary examination into the Society's affairs has been found necessary, nor could such a case well arise under its admirable system of management.

The Branch office of the Equitable for North Carolina is located at Charlotte, and is under the management of Messrs. Burroughs & Springs, the well known and efficient general agents of the Society. Under their direction the affairs of the Company in our State have been eminently prosperous and its large business steadily increasing. MATTHEW P. TAYLOR, Esq.,

Agent, Bank of Wilmington Building, Front street, Wilmington, N. C., ably represents the Company in this city. We cheerfully commend these gentlemen and the great institution they represent to all seeking life insurance

From the Raleigh Sentinel.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE

SENATE.

FRIDAY, Dec. 10, 1869.

Mr. Sweet from the Committee on the Judiciary reported back the bill to authorize the Committee of Investigation to enforce the attendance of witnesses, recommending its passage.

Mr. Winstead moved a suspension of the rules in order to put the bill on its several readings.

Mr. Davis, of Montgomery, opposed the motion and the bill. He said the whole thing was inaugurated simply to please a certain click in the other House, and there was really nothing in the bill, because the powers asked for were already granted. It was a move of the opposition party, which he understood very well. It was an arrow pointed at an honorable and respectable citizen of this State, Gen. Milton S. Littlefield, the proprietor of the Standard, the leading Republican journal in this State. It was all for a sounding cymbal and nothing else. The truth was there were men in the State and in the capitol who were as deeply interested in this matter as Gen. Littlefield, why are not Col. Cowan, A. J. Jones and other Railroad Presidents summoned? No, nothing will do, nothing can be done unless a commission is sent to Florida to bring Gen. Littlefield back. He was tired of these investigation Committees. They were mere bubbles. He had enough of them last session, when nothing was gained by them.

A. H. Galloway (col.) opposed the motion and the bill also. He did not understand why the leading spirit of the opposition party only assailed one man in reference to these charges of fraud. Rumors were rife that General Littlefield had misappropriated the $7,000,000 or a portion of the funds issued to the Western N. C. R. R. He did not understand how he Littlefield) could have done so, when for a long period of the time after the issues of the bonds Geo. W. Swepson was the President of that Road, and the bonds had been issued to him. Littlefield had only been President a short time. He should oppose the resolution because he had no idea that they would accomplish anything. The proposition originated in the House, in the brain of a Democrat, a carpet-bagger from Tennessee, and its object was to injure the republican party.

Mr. Love said he should support the motion and the bill, if for nothing else, because of the strange speeches just made, the one by the Senator from Montgomery and the other by the Senator from New Hanover, He thought it very strange that the friends of General Littlefield should take it up themselves to defend him when his name was not mentioned in the resolution, nor was there any allusion to him or the road he represents. Why not defend the officers of other roads? He was gratified to state that the officers of the road in which his people were interested informed him that they were ready to make a full showing of the management of their road. He hoped that the continued insinuations in regard to the Western N. C. Railroad would be stopped.

Mr. Robbins said there were few who discussed subjects of this character in the calm and dispassionate manner which they deserved. Why not pass this resolution? What harm is there in it? The Senator from Montgomery says it grants no additional power, then what objection can there be to it? There were two facts he had learned from a distinguished Republican gentleman several weeks ago, in an address before the citizens of this place, that should awaken this General Assembly to a sense of their duty. General Dockery told us that the *people* demanded this investigation, and unless we gave it to them and satisfied them beyond a doubt that their money is not improperly used, repudiation would surely follow. What he said had weight and force in it and should be felt however wrong the suspicion of the people may prove to be in reference to this matter. He thought the action of the friends of General Littlefield in this debate was in bad taste. There were no charges preferred against him in the resolution, consequently no defense was necessary. Since he (Littlefield) had been alluded to, he would say that since there were rumors derogatory to him, the least that he could have done was to have postponed his trip (even if ten thousand dollars had been at stake), and have come before the committee and have said, here I am gentlemen, investigate these charges. Senators charge that it is a party measure; he thought that in considering so important a matter as is contained in this resolution, that Senators should cast the partizan aside and be Senators in the true sense of the word. He not not believe that was the object, at least he knew that he had no partizan feeling in it, but if that was his object, nothing could please him better than to see Republicans attempting to cover up and tramel a full investigation of this subject, and the men or party who opposes it injures himself.

Mr. Welker (republican) said he had very little confidence in such committees, because he had no idea that they would accomplish anything though he should vote for them. If his advice had been heeded last session there would have been no necessity for them, and these bonds would be now in the hands of the Treasurer; but the General Assembly adopted another policy; the bonds are out and it is not known where they are and if found out they cannot be of any advantage to the State. He was not in the ring last session nor did he belong to any ring now. He opposed the placing of these bonds into the hands of one man. He was not responsible for that action.

The question recurring on the motion to suspend the rules, it prevailed, ayes 32 nays Messrs. Colgrove, Davis, Galloway and Hayes—4.

Mr. Stephens, (republican) offered the following as an additional section: "The Committee shall also have power to call out the militia to suppress the Ku Klux of Orange, Chatham and other counties of the State.

Mr. Forkner, (republican) moved that the Senate refuse to entertain the amendment.

Mr. Robbins said the motion was not necessary as the amendment was irrellavant to the subject under consideration; it was out of order.

The Chair so ruled.

Mr. Shoffner called the previous question which was sustained, and the bill passits second reading. Yeas 33, nays Messrs. Bellamy, Davis and Hayes—3.

Mr. Hayes moved to amend as follows: 'provided no State officer shall be summoned to appear before the committee."

Mr. Shoffner called for the previous question, which motion prevailed.

The amendment of Mr. Hayes was rejected. Yeas 12, nays 27.

Those voting in the affirmative were Messrs. Bellamy, Colgrove, Davis, Galloway, colored, Hayes, Jones, of Columbus, Lassiter, Legg, Moore, of Carteret, More, of Yancey, Smith and Stephens.

The bill passed its final reading. Yeas 34, nays 5—Messrs. Bellamy, Davis, Eppes, colored, Galloway, colored, and Moore, of Yancey.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

By Mr. Robbins: A bill to provide for the election of members of the General Assembly, and a bill to provide for the registration of the voters of the State.—Referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

By Mr. Burns: A bill to amend an act passed by the General Assembly of 1856, creating one million of preferred stock in N. C. Railroad. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

SPECIAL ORDER.

Resolution authorizing the Governor to remove Wm. A. Smith, President of the N. C. Railroad, from the Directorship of said road, on motion of Mr. Robbins, was laid on the table—ayes 27, nays 7. Nays—Messrs. Bellamy, Burns, Colgrove, Davis, Etheridge, Galloway, colored, and Moore, of Yancey.

On motion the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, Dec. 10, 1869.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.

By Mr. Vestal: A resolution to raise a joint committee to call on the Treasurer and ascertain facts in regard to the disposition of State bonds issued by him to Railroad Companies, &c. The resolution lies over.

By Mr. Malone: A resolution for a select committee to inspect the Auditor's report. Lies over.

By Mr. Ellington: A bill to repeal certain sections of chapter 12 Revised Code. Referred.

On motion of Mr. Malone, the rules were suspended, and his resolution for a committee on the Auditor's report taken up.

Mr. Graham moved its reference to the Finance Committee.

Considerable debate arose on this motion.

Mr. Sinclair opposed the reference, because it looked like shirking investigation of money affairs. He wished to see the $76,000 "contingencies" accounted for.

The motion to refer was rejected, yeas 21, nays 53, and the resolution was adopted.

On motion of John Williamson, colored, the rules were suspended, and his bill, which declared a poll tax above $2 illegal, was taken up, the question being on the Finance Committee's substitute.

Mr. Harris, of Franklin, opposed the substitute, and declared the present system of taxation oppressive upon the people.

Williamson accepted the substitute.

Mr. Pou favored the measure, because it was but carrying out the express declaration of the Constitution.

Mr. Malone opposed the act, because it was an attempt to make the Legisiature construe the Constitution—a question which comes in the province of the Judiciary. The policy of the act, he thought was bad, it created confusion. The Supreme Court has decided that special tax for special purposes may exceed the equation.

Mr. Durham offered an amendment, that the State and county taxes combined (both general and special) shall never hereafter exceed $2 on $300 in value of the taxable property of the State.

Messrs. Seymour, Downing, Leary, Justice, Stilley, Sinclair and Vest opposed the amendment in remarks more or less lengthy.

Mr. Hodnett favored it, because pledges were given by the Republicans that the poll tax should not exceed $2, and the same pledge was given that property tax should not exceed 66⅔ on the $100 worth. These pledges had secured the adoption of the Constitution; but they had been broken in regard to property.

Mr. Moore, of Chowan, opposed the amendment and favored the substitute, and made quite a lenghty speech in its favor.

Mr. Seymour called the previous question, which was sustained, and the amendment lost; yeas 37, nays 53.

Mr. Sinclair, (Republican) here arose to a question of privilege.

He was reported in the Standard as joining Mr. French in a minority report against his own resolution in reference to raising a Committee to manage the investigation before the Committee of the Whole. The facts were that Mr. French had assured him (Sinclair) that he (French) had no intention to press his bill until the Committee of the Whole had proven a failure in eliciting facts, then he (Sinclair) agreed to support Mr. French's bill because he (Sinclair) was determined to probe this matter to the bottom, &c., &c.

It will be remembered when the debate occurred here on Monday last, the name of Colonel Cowan was mentioned in a manner which he (Sinclair) considered as impugning that gentleman's honesty; he (Sinclair) promptly resented the indignity and both Mr. Ingram and Mr. Downing courteously disclaimed any intention of reflecting upon Colonel Cowan. Strange to say, however, that the Wilmington Post carefully copies the debate so far as it reflects upon Colonel Cowan, and as carefully excludes all that was said in that gentleman's vindication. Such conduct he (Sinclair) denounced as most infamous and here in his seat denounced it as such.—Where carpet-bagism develops itself in destroying the reputation of our honest and best men it should be frowned down and kicked over the State lines.

Regular business resumed.

The question recurred on the substitute of the Finance Committee.

The substance of this substitute is that it is the intention of the constitution to limit the combined taxes, both general and special, for State and county purposes, to $2 on the poll, and forbids the laying a greater tax than that, and requires the refunding to the counties, the excess of that amount already collected.

The bill then passed the second reading, yeas 60, nays 30.

The bill then passed the third reading under a suspension of the rules.

The House then adjourned.

SENATE.

SATURDAY, Dec. 11, 1869.

Mr. White, from the Committee on Education, reported back the bill to incorporate the Wilson Collegiate Seminary for young ladies, and recommended the following additional section: "That it shall be the duty of the Trustees and Professors of the Wilson Collegiate Seminary for young ladies, to report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction on or before the 1st of October, 1870, the number of pupils in attendance, course of studies pursued, text books used, and all other information of a public character that the Superintendent of Public Instruction may desire."

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS, &C.

By Mr. Moore, of Chowan, a bill to extend the corporate limits of the town of Goldsboro. Placed on the Calendar.

By Mr. Moore, of Carteret, the following resolution:

Whereas it appears from the report of the Superintendent of Public Works that there is, and has been during the past year a conflict of authority between the said Superintendent and his Excellency the Governor touching the powers and duties of the said Superintendent, under the acts ratified April 12th, 1869, defining the powers and duties of said Superintendent.—Now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the General Assembly of North Carolina in and by the acts above recited, intended to and did vest in the Superintendent of Public Works, all power and authority to take paramount charge and control of all her public property and her interest in the public work. To cast the vote of and appoint Directors on the part of the State, and represent the State's interest, either in person or by proxy designated by him alone at all meetings in which the State is interested whether in railroads, canals, turnpikes or otherwise.

Any laws or parts of laws anterior thereto to the contrary notwithstanding.

The resolution was referred to the committee on propositions and grievances.

On motion of A. H. Galloway, colored, the rules were suspended and the bill relating to the jurisdiction of the Special Court of the city of Wilmington was taken up, amended and passed its third reading.

CALENDAR.

Bill to amend an act to incorporate the town of Hickory Tavern passed its third reading.

Bill to incorporate the North State Gas Light Company of the city of Raleigh, on motion of Mr. Welker was indefinitely postponed.

Bill to extend the corporate limits of the town of Goldsboro', passed its third reading.

Bill to incorporate the Bank of Raleigh. Substitute from the Committee was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Welker it was amended so as to make the personal property of each and all of the Stockholders of said Bank liable to double the amount of his stock.

Mr. Hayes moved to insert after the word *on* in the 4th section, not to exceed 8 per cent.

Mr. Love moved to insert not to exceed 10 per cent.

Pending its consideration the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SATURDAY, Dec. 11, 1869.

RESOLUTIONS AND BILLS.

By Mr. Malone: A resolution requesting the Governor to direct that no further disposition of bonds shall be made by certain Railroad Companies. Referred.

By Mr. Robinson: A resolution asking for postal rontes. Referred.

By Mr. Moore, of Chowan: A resolution allowing Solicitors $10 for every trial when the punishment on conviction is imprisonment. Lies over.

By Mr. Sinclair: A joint resolution in reference to the Bank of North Carolina providing that a writ of injunction restraining Chas. Dewey, Esq., the assignee, from collecting the assets, be asked for in the U. S. District Court. Lies over.

By the same: A bill to amend the public school law in reference to county examiners. Referred.

On motion of Mr. Mendenhall, the rules were suspended and his bill making an appropriation of $46,000 for the support of the Deaf, Dumb and Blind Asylum was taken up and passed its second reading by a vote of yeas 81, nays 0.

On motion of Mr. Candler, the rules were suspended and the bill to amend the act chartering the Western N. C. R. R. Co. was taken up and passed its several readings.

Bill to incorporate the Valley Railroad Co. was taken up, Senate amendment was concurred in and bill ordered to be enrolled.

On motion of Mr. Sinclair, the rules were suspended and his resolution in reference to the Bank of North Carolina was taken up, ordered to be printed, and made special order for Monday next.

On motion of Mr. Seymour, the rules were suspended and his resolution against any further increase of the public debt was taken up and adopted.

On motion of Mr. Seymour, the use of this Hall was accorded to James O'Hara, colored, to lecture on Wednesday evening.

By Mr. Wilkie: A resolution authorizing the payment of Doorkeepers. Lies over.

On motion of Mr. Ellis, the rules were suspended and his resolution concerning the total abatement of the U. S. direct tax was taken up.

The question recurred upon a concurrence in the Senate's amendment.

Mr. Ellis moved that the House do not concur, but that a committee of conference be raised. Carried.

By Mr. Ellington: A resolution in regard to the mileage and *per diem* of Doorkeepers. Lies over.

On motion, the House then adjourned.

SENATE.

MONDAY, Dec. 13, 1869.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Moore, of Carterett, a joint resolution providing that the Committee on Military affairs of both Houses, be instructed to meet in joint session and inquire whether any legislation is needed to suppress violence and crime throughout the State, and whether the Executive is clothed with adequate power to maintain and execute the laws and to secure the safety of the lives and property of the citizens of the State, and to report by bill or otherwise, lies over.

THIRD READING OF BILLS.

Bill to amend and consolidate the several acts relating to the organization and government of the State University.

Mr. Love moved that the further consideration of the bill be postponed until the 18th of January.

A. H. Galloway (col.) moved to amend the bill so as to provide that the Professors of both Colleges shall belong to the colored race.

The President ruled the amendment out of order, as it was irrelevant to the motion pending.

The question recurred on Mr. Love's motion, and it was adopted.

CALENDAR.

Resolution to withdraw the State bonds from the market.

Mr. Sweet offered a substitute, which proposed to contract a Joint Committee to respectfully invite the various Presidents of Railroads who hold said bonds to a meeting of conference to consult as to the proper measure to adopt to inspire public confidence in the faithful disposition of the aforesaid bonds for the purpose for which the same were issued, said committee to report Jan. 12th, 1870.

On motion of Mr. Love, the substitute was amended so as to make it a Senate Committee.—He was in favor of both propositions and thought that both the original and the substitute should be adopted, but they should be introduced as separate propositions, and in order to accomplish that end he should vote against substituting the one for the other.

The substitute was rejected. Ayes Messrs. Hayes, Moore, of Catoret, Moore, of Yancey, Respass, Smith and Sweet 6. Nays 23, and after some discussion the original resolution was adopted, ayes 28, nays Messrs. Cook, Davis, Martindale and Sweet—4.

Bill to secure the return to the public Treasury the bonds issued to the Chatham Railroad Company.

Mr. Cook moved its further consideration be postponed until the third Monday in January 1870. Pending its consideration the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, Dec. 13, 1869.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Moore, of Chowan, for Finance Committee, reported favorably upon the bill providing for the support of the Insane Asylum for the next fiscal year ($48,000.)

On motion, the rules were suspended and the bill passed its second reading by a vote of yeas 85, nays 0.

RESOLUTIONS AND BILLS.

By Mr. Proctor: A bill to authorize the Commissioners of Robeson county to issue bonds.—Referred.

By Mr. Sinclair: A bill to repeal the act in relation to the completion of the North Carolina Railroad. Referred.

By the same: A bill to legalize certain marriages in Robeson county. (This bill provides that all marriages which took place in that county between white and colored persons from May 1865, to August 1869, both inclusive, shall be declared legal and valid.)

By Mr. Long, of Richmond: A bill in favor of H. G. Terry. Referred.

By J. W. Leary, (colored): A bill to authorize the Commissioners of Cumberland to levy a special tax. Referred.

On motion of Mr. Mendenhall, the rules were suspended and the bill providing for the support of the D. & D. and B. Asylum, was taken up and passed its third reading by a vote of yeas 82, nays 0, (bill gives $46,000.)

SPECIAL ORDER.

The resolution concerning the Bank of North Carolina. (The resolution provides that a writ of injunction be asked for in the United States District Court to restrain Charles Dewey, Assignee, from collecting the assets.)

Mr. Sinclair, (the introducer) explained the reasons of the introduction of the resolution and gave a history of the affairs of the Bank.

Mr. Gatling opposed the resolution. He argued at some length against the measure and concluded by moving that it be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

After some discussion the motion to refer was put to a vote and was adopted.

Mr. Downing moved to suspend the rules and take up his resolution in reference to *per diem*, when,

On motion, the House adjourned.

From the Raleigh Standard.

Political Disabilities.

There is a bill before Congress to relieve a very large number of persons in the South from the political disabilities under which they labor, in consequence of their position during the late rebellion. We find the following from North Carolina:

J H Carson, of Ashe.
Abram Bryan, of Alleghany.
John Ballard, J B Hargrove, Nathaniel Knight, James A Leak, John A Bcydeu, of Anson.
Joseph W Beasley, John W Simmons, of Bertie.
J J D Lucas, J W Pardie, John A Richardson, of Bladen.
William Lankford, John Laning, Lawson A Laning, James W Walker, Lott Pittman, Rev T W Atkin, John Souther, G M Bobers, John Smart, G L Penland, George Whitman, J M Wells, Hughey Brooks, William Ducker, of Buncombe.
Richard C Cook, Caleb Phifer, James M Brown, Nelson Slough, Wm M Coleman, Kish P Harris, of Cabarrus.
James C Harper, of Caldwell.
Jonas Cline, Caleb Setzer, William Hale, Andrew H Shuford, Matthew L McCorkle, Adol L Shuford, James T Johnson, Ephriam Yount, Mosse Barger, David Whistenhurst, Marcus, L Fry, H M Hallman, G M Yoder, of Catawba.
J H Headen, of Chatham.
James M Higgins, of Cherokee.
John M Jones, William R Houghton, William A Moore, of Chowan.
Martin C Roberts, Rufus Roberts, W W Green, Joseph W Wilson, of Cleveland.
W W Pate, J A Mcaliteby, of Columbus.
W McL McKay, Archibald McLean, John W Lett, James A McRae, Willie T Rhodes, William A Banks, J C Poe, William R Love, Hamilton McMilan, of Cumberland.
J W Thomas, J J Martin, William F Henderson, of Davidson.
W A Allen, of Duplin.
Jno Marshall Bell, John M Beck, of Davie.
Joshua Killabrew, of Edgecombe.
R L Patterson and H S Cook, of Forsythe.
Russell H Kinsbury, Robert B Gilliam, Isaac J Young, R D Jones, John C Usrey, C M Rogers, A H Cook, L A Paschal, J J Ellison, and S S Harrill, of Granville.
C H Harper and H H Best, of Green.
G M Isley, David Cobb, R S Sechrist, R W Glenn, Arrington, Ilworth, Abel Gardner, Jr, Nathan Hiat, Joseph A Houston, Wm P Heath, Alexander H Lindsay, John McLean, Elihu Starbuck, Moses D Young, Emanuel Dean, Stephen Hussey, Edward Morgan, Jacob A Mick, Shubal G Coffin, and Anselom Reid of Guilford.
Neal S Stewart and Benjamin F Shaw of Harnett.
James M Trader and Starkey S Harrell of Hertford.
James W Williams, D M Furchase, Wilfred Turner, John H Dalton, A F Gaither, John C Hargrave, James S Bently, Thomas N Cooper, Perry Tomlin, R J McDowell and Moses A White of Iredell.
W W Munday, Dr C L Hunter, James M Smith, Richard E Burch, John D Shaw, Franklin Howard, Joseph Shelton, John F Phifer, Robert Dixon, Isaac Low and D A Lowe of Lincoln.
David W Siler of Macon.
W F Craig, C L Corpening, and Uriah Ownly of McDowell.
Clement Dowd of Mecklenburg.
J W Bowman, M C Phelps, A A Congleton, J R Doughty, J W Chadwick and J M Grizzard of Mitchell.
Jesse S Spencer of Montgomery.
Thomas Rolline, Samuel E Johnson, John Mc Neil, Alexander Kelly and John H McLean of Moore.
Patrick Murphey, Manger London, John J Conoley, John H Brooks and W M Monroe of New Hanover.
W N Patterson, James C. Turrentine, William F Strayhorn, William F Patterson, George Laws, S J Norwood, James Wells, W T Buxton, J W Carr, W A Harris, D C Guyther, J W Stroud, H M O Stroud and W H Hogan of Orange.
G W Cox of Pitt.
J H Allen of Polk.
Jesse Sneed, Joseph Reece, Wiley Smith and Henry Craven of Randolph.
Charles P Powell, D N Patterson and A J McQueen of Richmond.
Joseph Lee, Richmond Lee, Moses Warwick, Murphy C McNair, Alexander McRae, John A Rowland, Giles Leitch and Thomas J Morrissey of Robeson.
Dr James G Ramsey, Thomas B Long, James H Ennis, William M Kincaid, M A Agner, Thos Barber, Isaac A Witherspoon, John A Bradshaw, David Barringer, Henry Barringer, Jesse Themasen, Jack Fraley, William H Bailey, William S Martin, Tillman Crawford, Moses L Holmes, William D Haygood, Wellington L Kestler, A H H Boyden, Mumford S McKenzie, William T Martin John Sloop, John H Cress and A J. Mock, of Rowan.
Peter A Wilson of Forsythe.
J B Eaves and D D Allen of Rutherford.
Wm Daughtry, James G Williams, Hardy Daughtry, James C Autry, John A Oates, Leonard Goodwin, Wilson Lockamy, H T Jackson Daniel McKinnon, Hardy L Spell, Jas B Maxwel and James Morrisey, of Sampson.
Samuel Reeves, sr., and Samuel Reeves, jr., of Salisbury.
Dr W W McCanless, A H Lindsey, Thomas E Cook and E S Dean of Stokes.
H C Hampton, Gideon Bryan, Hugh Gwyn and Nathaniel A Boyden, of Surry.
Geo Orr, of Transylvania.
James E Erby. A S Crowell and S S S McCanley, of Surry.
Rufus H Tucker, Jas H Foote, T W Young, Henderson Hodge, Geo W Fentress, Calvin E Parish J W Estes and S H Normon, of Wake.
B C Cook, A T McCallum and James Manning, of Washington.
Benjamin F Petty, C L Cook, Fletcher A Harris and Elisha Welborne, of Wilkes.
Alvin Bagley, of Wilson.
Wm W Long, Joseph Williams, Nicholas L Williams, B B Benham and Thomas S Martin, of Yadkin.
Leander Ray, Jno G Marlow and Adam Snow, of Yancy.
Jasper Etheridge, of Onslow.
James D Bridges, John Purcell, John Gilchrist, John Wilkes, Calvin Black, Hector McLean, Alexander Purcell, Jno H McEarchern, N A McLean, Giles Leitch, Jno A Rowland, Thos J Morrisey, Wm A Diok, Joseph Thompson, Willie Moore, Wm J Brown, Augus D Brown and Murphy McNair, of Robeson.
Richard W King, Pinkney Hardee and Lemuel H Aldridge, of Lenoir.
Willie Daniel of Wilson.

"WIDELY KNOWN."—It is generally supposed that the Websters, Palmerstons, Gortaschoffs, Metternichs, and Garribaldis of politics are the men of world-wide renown, and so they are where newspapers circulate, but not much beyond. One of our friends lately returned from China, amuses us with the recital of his journey inland for some distance, where the enquiry oftenest made when he became known as an American, was whether he knew or had ever seen the great chemist of his country, Dr. Ayer, that made the medicines. They use his remedies—many of them have been cured by them—and they speak of him, as if he occupied the whole of America or were at least the great feature of it. A mandarin who had been cured of a malignant ulcer on the hip by his Sarsaparilla, seemed to consider it our principle article of export, and its inventor one of the few men this continent had ever produced worthy the attention of Chinamen.—New York *News*.

DIED.

December 12, 1869, at the Asylum for the Insane at Raleigh, in the 24th year of her age, Mrs. Margaret E. Hines, consort of Calvin V. Hines, and daughter of Edmund A. Hawes, Esq., of New Hanover county.

Her sickness was disease of the heart, producing mental aberation, for which she had been only a short time in the Asylum. She was rational, however, during her last moments.—She leaves two little children and a sorely bereaved husband to mourn her loss.

Mrs. Hines was a member of the Presbyterian church, and leaves a vacancy that many will grieve to see. She follows an infant son, John Robert Hawes, who died only a few weeks before its mother.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them." COM.

LATEST NEWS
BY TELEGRAPH.

From Washington—Proceedings of Congress, &c.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15—Noon.

SENATE.—A resolution was offered authorizing Commissioner Delano to offer a reward for assaults on revenue officers.

The resolution for adjournment from the 22d of December to the 5th of January was concurred in.

HOUSE.—A resolution was introduced for the Committee on Public Safety to take cognizance of steamboat, mining and other disasters. Ordered published.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Attorney General Hoar has resigned upon nomination to the Supreme Bench. It is probable, but not officially announced. There are wild speculations regarding his successor.

North Carolina bond holders here are urging Federal interference in North Carolina finances on the ground that the Federal government must enforce the constitutions adopted under the reconstruction acts.

From Washington—Proceedings of Congress, &c.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15—P. M.

SENATE.—Mr. Sumner presented a petition from the recent colored Laboring Convention praying for a division of the public lands in the South among them.

In opposing the motion to adjourn to the 20th, instead of the 5th of January, Mr. Sumner said that we had Georgia, Virginia and the Cable, in connection with France, pressing for consideration.

Mr. Pomeroy said, and Cuba.

Mr. Sumner said the least said about that the better.

Mr. Brownlow had a long and personal explanation read from the Clerk's desk. Speaking of Stokes and Butler he said that they were two beautiful pinks to be assailing him—that the rejection of the Fifteenth Amendment by the Legislature was an act of perfidy.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16—Noon.

Stocks unsettled and feverish Money 7 per cent. premium. Sterling Exchange, short, 108⅜; long, 109½. Gold 121½. Sixty-two ex-coupons 113¾. Tennesee sixes, ex-coupons 50½; new, 42½. Virginia sixes, ex-coupons, 49; new, 53¾.—Louisiana sixes, ex-coupons, old, 68; new, 60. Levee sixes, 60; Eights 75. Alabama Eights, 97; Fives, 61. Georgia sixes, 84 asked; sevens 93¾. North Carolina sixes, ex-coupons, old, 42¼; new, 28¾ asked. South Carolina sixes, ex-coupons, new, 75¾.

Flour dull and declining. Wheat dull and in buyers favor. Corn unchanged. Pork dull and declining—new mess, $32. Lard dull—in barrels 18¾ cents. Cotton quiet—middling uplands 25½ cents. Spirits Turpentine firm at 44@44½ cents ₱ gallon. Rosin firm at $3 05 for strained.—Freights dull.

Keep the Circulation Active.

A free and regular circulation of the blood is essential to health. It places the whole system in a state of active defence against all unwholesome influences, and is an especial safeguard against the inimical effect of sudden changes of temperature, and of damp and cold.

If proper attention were paid to this important fact, there would not only be a great decrease in the number of cases of stomach, bowel and renal complaints, but also in the number of deaths by consumption and other pulmonary diseases.

At this period of the year, when the dividing line which separates a genial from an inclement season has just been passed, a course of HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS will be found of invaluable service in improving the condition of the vital fluid and gently stimulating its flow. Violent coughs and colds, like intermittent fever, are the frequent effects of a chilly atmosphere upon a debilitated organization. Diseases of the kidneys often proceed from the same source.—How essential it is, therefore, for persons of feeble constitution, to invigorate the vital organization at the commencement of Winter. Fortified by warm clothing without, and HOSTETTER'S BITTERS within, the frail and delicate may brave with impunity an amount of exposure and hardship which, under other circumstances, would prostrate them on a bed of sickness. Let them consider this and be wise in time.

Good Advice.

Let our possessions be what they may—marble palaces, broad lands, magnificent plate, or caskets of "precious stones"—they all sink in the balance against Heaven's great boon, HEALTH, and they cannot be enjoyed without it. And yet how little is it valued, and how carelessly preserved. The laws of nature cannot be violated with impunity. Night revelry, luxurious living, irregularity of meals, and a disordered appetite, will gradually destroy the power and activity of the stomach. How many ladies and gentlemen eat and drink disease at late suppers, and arise in the morning with headache, loss of appetite, feeling languid and unrefreshed. There can be no medical remedy that will turn lead into food, or poisoned drinks into nutriment, but medical science can *assist* nature, supply exhausted fluids, and to a great extent correct the effects of disease. In all cases such as the above, we recommend PLANTATION BITTERS. You will find them just the thing—at the same time a most delicious tonic and appetizer.

MAGNOLIA WATER.—Superior to the best imported German Cologne, and sold at half the price.

In the Probate Court--Duplin County.

Isaac B. Kelly, Plaintiff.
against
Spaight Hill, Executor of Thomas Hill, Deceased, Defendant.
Order for service by Publication

IN THE ABOVE ACTION IT APPEARING from the affidavit of Isaac B. Kelly:

I. That Spaight Hill cannot, after due diligence, be found in the State.

II. That a cause of action exists against said Spaight Hill.

III. That Spaight Hill is not a resident of this State, but has property therein.

It is ordered,

I. That service of the summons be made by publication in the Wilmington Weekly Journal once a week for at least six weeks successively, notifying the said Spaight Hill to appear before the Probate Court of said county of Duplin on or before the 24th day of January, 1870, and show cause why he should be removed from his office of Executor, or judgment of removal will be pronounced against him.

II. That a copy of the summons and complaint in this action be forthwith deposited in the Post Office by the said Plaintiff, directed to the said Defendant at his usual place of residence, if the same be known to said Plaintiff. And said summons shall be deemed to have been served at the expiration of the term of publication prescribed by this order.

Given under my hand and seal of office at Kenansville, December 7th, 1869.
: Seal. :

J. D. SOUTHERLAND,
Probate Judge of Duplin county.

dec 17 45 w6w

THE HEALING POOL.

ESSAYS FOR YOUNG MEN, WHO HAVE fallen into vicious habits, and now desire a higher life, and a better MANHOOD, with certain means of relief for the afflicted. Sent in sealed letter envelopes, free of charge. Address, HOWARD ASSOCIATION, BOX P., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

sept 25 307&33-3mch

TO THE WORKING CLASS.—We are now prepared to furnish all classes with constant employment at home, the whole of the time or for the spare moments. Business new, light and profitable. Persons of either sex easily earn from 50c. to $5 per evening, and a proportional sum by devoting their whole time to the business. Boys and girls earn nearly as much as men. That all who see this notice may send their address, and test the business, we make this unparalleled offer: To such as are not well satisfied, we will send $1 for the trouble of writing. Full particulars, a valuable sample, which will do to commence work on, and a copy of *The People's Literary Companion*—one of the largest and best family newspapers published—all sent free by mail. Reader if you want permanent, profitable work, address E. C. ALLEN & CO., AUGUSTA, MAINE. dec 11-44-3m

Wilmington Wholesale Prices Current.

BEESWAX, ₱ lb	35 @ 36	LIME, ₱ bbl.	0 00 @ 0 00
BARRELS, Sp'ts T., each	2 00 @ 2 75	From store	0 00 @ 1 75
2nd hand	2 40 @ 2 75	MOLASSES, ₱ gallon,	
New	3 00 @ 3 25	Cuba, hhds	52½ @ 55
CANDLES, ₱ lb.,		do bbls	55 @ 60
Tallow	18 @ 21	Sugar house	60 @ 80
Adamantine	20 @ 21	do bbls	42½ @ 45
Sperm	50 @ 55	Syrup, bbls	60 @ 1 00
COFFEE, ₱ lb.,		NAVAL STORES,	
Java	35 @ 40	Turpentine ₱ 280 lbs.	
Laguayra	27 @ 30	Virgin	2 80 @ 0 00
Rio	20 @ 24	Yellow dip	2 80 @ 0 00
St. Domingo	25 @ 28	Hard	0 00 @ 1 65
COTTON, ₱ lb.,		Tar, ₱ bbl	2 00 @ 2 05
Ord. to Mid'g	22 @ 23½	Tar, in ordr	2 20 @ 2 25
Strict Mid'g	23½ @ 24	Pitch, City	3 60 @ 3 25
COTTON BAGGING,		Rosin, pale	4 25 @ 5 50
Gunny, ₱ yd	25 @ 26	do No. 1	2 50 @ 4 00
Dundee	00 @ 33	do No. 2	1 65 @ 1 80
Flax	26½ @ 27	do No. 3	0 00 @ 1 55
Double Ancr	27½ @ 28	Spirits Turpentine,	
Rope, ₱ lb	7 @ 10	₱ gal	40 @ 00
CORN MEAL,		NAILS, ₱ lb.,	
₱ bushel	1 30 @ 1 35	Cut	5 50 @ 5 75
DOMESTICS,		OILS, ₱ gallon,	
Sheeting,		Sperm	0 00 @ 2 00
₱ yard	12 @ 16	Linseed	1 40 @ 1 50
Yarn, ₱ 5 lb	2 10 @ 2 15	Machinery	1 75 @ 2 00
FEATHERS,		Kerosene	40 @ 42½
₱ lb	65 @ 75	PEA NUTS,	1 25 @ 1 60
FISH, ₱ bbl.,		POTATOES,	
Mackerel,		Sweet, bush	75 @ 0 00
No. 1	27 00 @28 00	Irish, ₱ bbl	2 25 @ 2 75
No. 2	22 00 @23 00	PROVISIONS, ₱ lb.,	
No. 3	14 00 @16 00	N. C. Bacon.	
Mullets	8 00 @12 00	Hams	23 @ 25
Herring,		Middlings	21 @ 22
East	0 00 @ 6 50	Shoulders	19 @ 20
N. C. roe	0 00 @ 0 00	Hog round	21 @ 22
do cut,	8 50 @ 9 00	Western Bacon.	
do gross,	0 00 @ 7 00	Hams	22½ @ 23
Dry Cod, ₱ lb	9 @ 10	Middlings	18½ @ 20
FLOUR, ₱ bbl., Northern		Shoulders	16 @ 16½
Family	7 00 @10 00	Lard, N. C.	20 @ 23
Superfine	5 75 @ 6 25	do North'rn	17 @ 23
Fine	5 00 @ 5 50	Butter, N. C.	25 @ 30
Ex. Super	6 25 @ 7 00	do North'rn	40 @ 42
NORTH CAROLINA.		Cheese	16 @ 20
Family	9 50 @10 00	PORK, Northern, ₱ bbl.	
Superfine	9 00 @ 9 25	City Mess	34 50 @35 00
GLUE, ₱ lb	18 @ 20	Thin	00 00 @00 00
GUNNY BAGS	30 @ 32	Prime,	00 00 @00 00
GUANO, Peruvian,		Rump	30 00 @31 00
Per ton	00 00 @95 00	SALT, Alum, per	
GRAIN, ₱ bushel,		bag 2 bush	1 75 @1 90
Corn	1 05 @ 1 15	Liverpool, sack, ground	
Oats	75 @ 85	cargo	0 00 @ 1 70
Peas, Cow	1 05 @ 1 10	from store	1 65 @ 1 70
Rice, rough	0 00 @ 0 00	American	1 60 @ 1 65
Carolina	9 @ 9½	SUGAR, ₱ lb.,	
HIDES, ₱ lb.,		Cuba	15 @ 16
Green	9 @ 9½	Porto Rico	13½ @ 14
Dry	18 @ 19	C	15½ @ 16
Hay, ₱ 100 lbs.,		B	16½ @ 17
Eastern	1 35 @ 1 40	A	17 @ 17½
Northern	0 95 @ 1 10	Crushed	17½ @ 18

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

WILMINGTON, N. C.,

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1869.

Colonel C. C. Tew.

The Montgomery *Mail* has just gotten hold of a statement of a Mr. Kelley, formerly of the 1st South Carolina Regiment, that Colonel C. C. TEW is now a prisoner at Dry Tortugas. This same story found some credence in this State in 1866, and the man went so far as to visit Mrs. Tew with his story; but upon investigation it was found to be untrue. There is no doubt, although his body has never been found, that this gallant officer and accomplished gentleman was killed at Sharpsburg in September, 1862. The fact that he went into the battle with no mark or indication of his rank will explain why he was never recognized. He slumbers with the thousands of other "unknown dead" of the war.

A Little Selfish.

The complacency with which some of the Virginia papers compliment the justice of the President in recommending the immediate and unconditioned admission of their State into the Union, in view of his unconstitutional and partisan recommendation in regard to Georgia, to say the least, is a little selfish. If he deserves credit for doing right, he certainly should be held up to public condemnation for doing wrong. We hope that in reconstructing ourselves in accordance with the wishes and behests of the Radical party, the Southern people will not let all the nobler impulses of their hearts become cauterized or shut their eyes to the dangers attending the utter contempt in which State lines and State authority are now held by the President and Congress.

Gov. Holden as a Constitutional Lawyer.

Quite a change seems to have come over the spirit of our Governor's dream since he penned and avowed the editorial in the Raleigh *Standard* of 30th October. Then he spoke thus: "A good deal has been said about the Governor proposing to send 'negroes and low whites' as troops to Orange and Chatham. The Governor sent white troops to Alamance and Jones and not colored troops. Did he get credit for it from those who assail him? He does not wish to send troops of any kind if he can avoid it. Gentlemen in Wake county who make this a ground of complaint should bear in mind that the Detailed Militia Law, inasmuch as the authorities of Wake have called in due form for the Detailed Militia, *provides that the Governor can, if he thinks proper, call for any of them between the ages of* 18 *and* 40 *to go to Chatham or Orange as militia.* Do they want to go? No. They would rather see the few poor white men who have been enrolled and the colored men go. But they may say they would not serve. Suppose the Governor should test them, how would they feel if held up as resisting the law of the country?"

On the 16th of November, in his message, to the Legislature, he spoke thus:

"Under the present militia law the Executive is comparatively powerless to enforce the laws. These laws should be amended so as to give the Executive the authority to embody promptly such a militia force as will enable him to repress violence in certain localities and maintain the peace.

* * * * * * *

"I trust the General Assembly will at once so amend the militia law as to authorize the Governor to call out for active service as many substantial white citizens as may be necessary in an emergency to enforce the law and to put down these midnight marauders. It would not be advisable to employ colored militia only in certain localities for this purpose. * * * But as the law now is, any one who may be ordered to perform service in the Detailed Militia may pay two dollars for exemption therefrom and evade service, thus imposing the burden on volunteers, or on such as cannot pay the amount."

The only hypothesis upon which we can account for this great change in the Governor's opinions is that in preparing his Message he found it expedient to read the Constitution and the Statutes, and then learned what really was the law he had sworn to obey. We earnestly hope that he may persist in his constitutional researches, as we feel assured he can do so with considerable advantage to himself as well as to the people. The Constitution, as bad as it is, is better than the arbitrary will of any man, and we therefore sincerely trust the Governor will continue his studies.

When he shall have exhausted the militia question we commend to his especial attention the necessity of amending either the Constitution or his insurrectionary proclamation. The Constitution, Art. IV, Sec. 7, says: "Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it or adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort." Governor HOLDEN, in his proclamation, says: "If there be those who counsel resistance to established authority such persons are traitors, and should be punished accordingly." Upon so important a matter there should not be such a fatal variance between the Constitution and the proclamation of its chief Executive officer.

We also commend to the careful consideration of His Excellency that part of the Constitution, *if any such can be found*, touching the power of the Governor to declare a county to be in a state of insurrection and thereby to "*suspend all civil law.*" "The Constitution confers this power on the Governor in the last resort and the Courts would sustain him," said his Excellency on the 30th October. In this connection we call his attention to Article 1, Section 9 of the Constitution, which says "all power of suspending laws or the execution of laws by any authority without the consent of the representatives of the people, is injurious to their rights and ought not to be exercised." Here, again, is a fatal variance between the Constitution and the declaration of the chief executive officer.

These things ought not so to be. We see no remedy, however, unless we can reconstruct either the Governor or the Constitution. "Let us have peace."

Senate Committees.

The revision of the Senatorial Committees, rendered necessary by the death of Mr. Fessenden and the resignation of Mr. Grimes, has been determined upon as follows: Mr. Morrill, of Maine, to be chairman of the Committee on Appropriations; Mr. Schurz, of Missouri, to the Committee on Foreign affairs, in place of Mr. Fessenden; Mr. Cragin, of New Hampshire, to be chairman of the Naval Committee, in place of Mr. Grimes; Mr. Pool, of North Carolina, to the Committee on Appropriations in place of Mr. Grimes; Mr. Ferry, of Connecticut, to be chairman of the Committee to Audit accounts, in place of Mr. Cragin; and Mr. Osborn, of Florida, to the Committee on Naval affairs, in the place of Mr. Cragin.

The Republican Party on its Last Legs—Cuba Can Save It.

Dana's New York *Sun* has an article with the above striking heading, in which its editor says: "The great questions on which the Republican party attained power, and those which have arisen in the course of its wonderful career, are all practically settled. Neither the one side nor the other can revive them, or hope to make anything by nugatory attempts to disturb the public mind by their further agitation.

"To perpetuate the power of their party the Republicans need the stimulus of a great and absorbing national issue. It is presented to them by the heroic struggle now going on in Cuba to wrest that island from the clutch of Spain. The Republican majority in Congress should at once order the administration to recognize the independence of Cuba—recognition of belligerent rights will not answer the purpose; and then, in vindication of the true American doctrine, that freedom and not slavery shall be the prevailing law in this hemisphere, the United States should immediately form an alliance, offensive and defensive, with the Cuban Republic.

"In this way the Republican party may save itself from premature decay and ultimate extinction. If, on the other hand, it permits this golden opportunity for initiating a grand and inspiring policy to pass away, it must continue to decline, and finally be dissolved. It is for the majority in Congress to decide which of the alternatives it will adopt."

Immigration.

As the attention of foreigners is being more and more directed to the Southern States, there is increased direct immigration to our own ports. It will be seen by the following letter from the British Consul at Charleston, that direct immigration in considerable numbers has already sprung up between that port and Europe. It may be well expected that many of these settlers will find their way into our State, or would do so, if any organized effort is made to bring it about.

To do this it is necessary to place in the hands of some organization or agent the necessary information to induce a fair share of these immigrants to North Carolina. It must be known who has employment for immigrant laborers; who has lands for sale in small lots, or to lease to these people; who are willing to donate alternate sections of their lands to induce good and reliable settlers. We must put our house in order to receive these people. We need them. We say we want them to come. We must therefore provide for them in advance of their coming.

It appears to us that this may be done through the agency established by the North Carolina Immigration Association in this city. The Agent, Mr. HENRY NUTT, is well known to the people of this section. Through his agency we have the means best adapted for the purposes for which Mr. WALKER has addressed his letter to President HAGOOD, of the South Carolina State Agricultural and Mechanical Association. All the information desired by the immigrant could be gathered together in this office, and Mr. NUTT, with the proffered and efficient services of Mr. SPRUNT, the British Vice-Consul at this port, can and will do much, if the proper encouragement is extended by those in need of laborers or settlers, to promote the rapid influx of European immigrants into this section of the State. We therefore commend to our own people the following letter, and hope they will at once place Mr. NUTT in possession of such information and orders that he may forward the great work, which has only just begun, but which must be developed before there can be any substantial prosperity to our section:

BRITISH CONSULATE,
CHARLESTON, December 3, 1869.

General Johnson Hagood, President of the South Carolina State Agricultural and Mechanical Association, Barnwell, S. C.:

MY DEAR SIR:—As the steamships plying across the Atlantic have commenced to bring emigrating British subjects to this port, I find myself applied to by them for direction as to the portions of the country to which they should resort. Some bring their funds, and are desirous of purchasing lands regarded as healthy and productive. Others desire engagements for service. And each class considers that I should be able to give proper directions as to the part of the State to which these visitors should in the first instance carry themselves and their families.

It seems to me that you, as President of the South Carolina State Agricultural and Mechanical Association, may be able through your various county organizations, to place in my hands such recommendations of the lands in every county as the proprietors may desire to lay before the parties referred to, and also undertaking to give employment to those now waiting for engagements, and hereafter to arrive.

I hear on all sides that these immigrants are desired. A number have arrived by the British steamer Marmora, and I am unable to name any definite point in the State to which I may direct them to proceed; and, therefore, in the hope of avoiding this difficulty in the future I address myself to you.

I shall be happy, if the plan meets your approbation, to receive from every county auxiliary Agricultural Association throughout the State such information as the officers thereof may be pleased to furnish me with, in order that I may lay the same before present and future immigrants, trusting that they may thereby be enabled to make a selection which will be alike advantageous to themselves and to the section of country to which they may resort.

I am, my dear sir,
Your very obedient servant,
H. P. WALKER, H. B. M. Consul.

The Legislature—Investigation—Repudiation.

The course of the Radical members of the Legislature in regard to the investigation of alleged frauds in the disposal of the twelve millions of dollars of State bonds issued for the benefit of the various unfinished Railroads is a confession of the guilt of the officials into whose hands they have been placed. If we are to judge of their guilt or innocence by the feeble defense of the party put up by the Raleigh *Standard*—because no one has stated the exact times when these frauds were committed, and the precise amounts involved in the criminal transactions, or the names of the parties implicated; that the Conservatives of the Legislature have failed in their charges; that the reports of frauds are false, and that those who represent them should be made answerable at law and punished, we might well claim that the case was fully made out. So defenseless are they against these charges, in the face of surrounding circumstances, that it is even advised that laws should be passed making such accusations criminal. Surely it is not by such means that the Radical managers hope to divert public attention from the corruptions of their officials, or frighten the press from their expositions. All the fulminations of the Radical Legislature and all the endorsements of the Radical Executive cannot blot out the evidences of Andrew J. Jones' past thefts, or whiten the criminal transactions of Littlefield. They stand before the public as much convicted of crime as if the verdict of a jury and the sentence of a judge had made it a matter of record.

Under ordinary circumstances honest men who have been entrusted with the charge of large amounts of money would invite investigation into the manner in which they have performed their trust.—But when the mouths of men are filled with rumors of frauds, and official names are connected with criminal transactions, they would *demand* such an investigation. If these reports be only unfounded rumors they have had the effect of breaking down the value of the bonds which have been issued. The Governor has pledged his official word and the Legislature has promised the faithful payment of the interest upon them, and the people have been fearfully taxed to meet it, and the honor and prosperity of the State are pledged for their faithful payment at maturity, and still they are worthless. The capitalists of the country will not touch them except at such a discount as carries with it the evidence of a want of confidence. If the Legislature will not recognize the fact, the people of North Carolina know that these bonds have been utterly ruined by the well grounded reports of frauds in their disposal, and in the fraudulent use of the money raised by their sale. The Radical officials in charge of the bonds are openly and boldly charged with these crimes, and they shrink from, instead of inviting, investigation. Their friends in the Legislature defeat every feasible plan proposed to bring about an honest investigation and clog by every parliamentary expedient the dilatory and expensive mode which only they have permitted. Under the flimsey pretense of an impartial investigation they expect to whitewash the crimes of their officials.

But even this, after they have accomplished their evident purpose, will neither build the Railroads, lessen the taxes nor improve the credit of the State. Millions of money will have been stolen or recklessly squandered, the reputation of the State will have been sacrificed, and the people will have been still farther impoverished. Investigation has been virtually defeated—the rogues are still masters of the situation—and the people are being dragged into repudiation,

Circuit Judge.

Our North Carolina aspirants, Chief-Justice PEARSON and Justice RODMAN, have not been appointed United States Judges of the Circuit comprising the States of Delaware, Maryland, West Virgina, North and South Carolina. The President has recommended GEORGE A. PEARRE, of Maryland, for the position. Judge Pearre is about fifty years of age, and is represented as having a Union record without flaw. He was president of a Union convention at Cumberland at the beginning of the war, which denounced secession as treason, and exerted all his influence in favor of the government, denouncing those engaged in the secession movement in the most severe terms. He represented Alleghany county in the convention of Unionists held at Baltimore in January, 1861, and made an able speech in favor of upholding the government of the United States.

He was elected Judge of the Circuit Court of Alleghany county in 1866, to fill the unexpired term of Judge Smith, and held the position until removed by the Democratic Constitutional Convention of 1867. During the Presidential contest of 1868, he took an active part in the campaign, canvassing Western Maryland in support of the Republican candidates. He was tendered last year the nomination for Congress from the fourth district, but declined on account of his legal engagements. This fact is greatly in his favor, and is an earnest that he intends to be a judge, and not like Underwood, a politician. The Baltimore *American* says no man, we are confident, will ever be less open to the charge of partisanship in the discharge of his judicial functions than he will prove.

Travels in Europe—Rome—Pompeii.

We have been permitted to make the following extracts from a private letter from a citizen of Wilmington in Europe. Everything relating Rome and the Pope are of peculiar interest at this moment in view of the Ecumenical Council now in session over which he presides. There are besides other points of interest noticed:

PARIS, Nov. 17th, 1869.

MY DEAR SIR:—

* * * * * * *

I attended full Papal services in the Sistine chapel, a speciality of his Holiness and one of the rooms in the immense pile of buildings constituting or called the Vatican, and connecting the great Church of St. Peters with the residence, or more properly, the palace of the Pope.

* * * * * * *

Gentlemen are not permitted to enter unless in full dress of black, and ladies ditto—including a black veil. The weight of the Rev. Dr. V——, of New York, whose family have been our traveling companions for several weeks, is about 225, while mine is but 170, and his breadth of shoulders exceeding mine at least six inches—*ergo* his swallow-tail, which he tendered, was not a fashionable fit, but as I was determined to witness the services, by the aid of the Doctor and the ladies I was full robed in the canonicals of the Dutch Reformed (the church of the Doctor) and accompanied by the three ladies draped apparently in widows' robes of the most ultra style of those fashionables who advertise their bereavement when recent, I managed to enter with the closely packed crowd.

This chapel is consecrated by the painting in person of Michael Angelo, which I cannot stop to describe, and decorated as it was for the occasion, (All Saint's Day) the impression produced upon the first sight was truly one of reverential grandeur. The Cardinals in their magnificent robes severally entered and after they had gone through with all sorts of incomprehensible obeisances and were seated according to precedence, his Holiness superbly arrayed and wearing his triple crown came in with quite a bodyguard of all sorts of richly attired clericals. The Pope was conducted to his chair of State and the services entirely choral commenced. There was no organ, but the music, entirely vocal, was grand and sweet beyond any I have ever heard.

The Pope is a fine looking old gentleman and his voice is sonorous and musical. The Cardinals, during a part of the service kissed his hand, but those of the clergy of inferior dignity were content or rather required to salute his digits pedal. Altogether the whole exhibition was interesting, though to one unillumined by the light of mother church it was odd and seemingly had but little of the teachings of the New Testament about it.

I did not intend to bore you with so much about my attendance at Sistine, and will avoid other details in this connection (though exceedingly curious) and proceed to advise you of my tramps after leaving the great and glorious old city of Rome. Thence we went to Naples where we tarried nearly a week, and the objects of interest in the city and near it are so numerous that had I not limited my absence from home I should have remained there for months. Vesuvius is there overhanging the city, sending forth continually a volume of steam so immense that an American cannot avoid lamenting that it is not located in Massachusetts or some other of the New England States, where it is very certain Yankee ingenuity would soon use it for driving a manufactory of some kind, and if there, and occasional eruptions such as those which buried Pompeii and Herculaneum visited the region indicated it might, for a time, cure Puritans of many of their isms and ultraisms.

Pompeii is by far the most intensely interesting spot I have visited. One feels as though he was having a real, living, yet solemn intercourse with its former inhabitants. Here are the very temples, theatres, houses, halls, bed-rooms and every sort of room used by them, and here are their bodies cased in the lava which destroyed them nearly eighteen hundred years ago. We admired the temples of Venus, of Jupiter, of Mercury and others of their Gods, rambled over the Villa of Cicero and dined in the house of Sallust, and saw many very curious things, of which I had rather talk of than write about. Near Naples I went into the tomb of Virgil, and not far from a town, the name of which I do not recollect, visited the spot where Cicero was murdered.

From Naples by steamer we went to Leghorn, where we remained only some eight or ten hours, and thence to Genoa which I found a city of much interest commercially, and manifestly of great wealth. I cannot stop to tell you all I have seen and must content myself with a running catalogue of the names of the places at which we stopped. From Genoa to Turin, then Geneva up the lake to Vevey, the castle of Chillon and one or two others of the very interesting towns on the lake of Geneva, and finally to Paris, where we have been for eight or ten days, seeing sights of all kinds, and among those more pretty women than I had ever dreamed of before.—From this place we go to London and thence to Liverpool to take the steamer Colorado which sails on the 1st of December.

For the Journal.

Railroad Communication with Onslow and Jones.

CHINQUEPIN, DUPLIN Co., N. C.,
December 10th, 1869.

Messrs. Editors:—The worthy Superintendent of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, in his report to the late annual meeting of the stockholders of his road, recommends the building of branch roads, as "feeders to the main track," and as a means of profit not only to the stockholders, but also of developing the agricultural and other resources of the State. In all he said I fully concur, and all farmers who know anything about the blessings and conveniences of railroads, will not dissent from his views.

The object of this communication is not so much to show how much we approve his recommendations, and how much gratification we feel at these evidences of interest taken by those who have the management of our railroads, in the great calling in which, from necessity, the most of us are now engaged, as to make a suggestion, sustained by a few facts, in relation to what I conceive to be one of the most important projects of this kind that our road can engage in. It is the building of a branch from Duplin Road, or Wallace, on this road, crossing the North East River just above Agpold Pocosin, so as to make it a straight line to the "Rich Lands" of Onslow county, and thence through what is known as the "Rich Lands" of Jones county on to Trenton, the county seat of that county.—Forty miles will measure the whole distance. The country through which it would pass is almost a perfect level, with a substrata of clay, a portion of it the best timbered in the State, and the North-East, which is small here and easily crossed, is the only swamp, river or creek of any size that is in the way on the whole route. It is believed that a surface road could be built here as cheap or perhaps cheaper than the same length of road could be anywhere else in the State. The cotton and naval stores that this road would transport to Wilmington would be immense. It would pass through the heart of that extensive, fertile and enterprising section of Onslow county, known as "Rich Lands," and end in the midst of the finest, richest and best cotton producing lands of our whole State, I mean the "Rich Lands" of Jones county. These fertile districts are extensive, and notwithstanding the great inconvenience, trouble and expense, the enterprising and "go-a-head" people who own them are at in getting their products to market, it is wonderful how much they make. With the stimulus that a railroad would give them, there is no region of the same area in the whole State that could measure arms with them in producing our great staples, grains and vegetables, and its whole outlet would be upon this road and its shipping and their trading point would be Wimington.

And this is not all. All along this route, all over the counties of Onslow and Jones, the people are able, willing, *anxious*, to invest their means in building this road. And it is believed that if the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad would have the preliminary surveys made, and exhibit that spirit, enterprise and liberality towards it that its great advantages, as well to the company and the people along this route entitles it to, the trouble of raising the capital stock to do the work would be but a small job. Will not the worthy President and Superintendent of our road *see to it* that the claims of this branch are not overlooked? I will trouble you for no more space.

Very truly yours, &c.,
PROGRESS.

We see it stated that Elihu Green, convicted of setting fire to the court-house at Kingwood, Preston county, W. Va., was allowed to choose hanging or imprisonment for life, and selected the former.—Judgment was accordingly pronounced, the time for the execution being fixed for January 28.

For the Journal.

OUR GOLDSBORO' CORRESPONDENCE.

Hotel Rivalry—Railroad Mismanagements—Improvements.—Business Prospects—Freight from Wilmington for Points in Interior of State—The Goldsboro' Press, &c., &c.

GOLDSBORO, N. C., Dec. 10, 1869.

Dear Journal: A pleasant ride of a few hours on the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad brought me to this thriving and now quiet little town, the greatest railroad centre in the State. As has always been the case, you are greeted on your arrival here with the shouts of about one thousand porters—more or less—all of them anxious to do you a service in the way of taking charge of your baggage—for a slight consideration, and as eager to press upon your attention the merits of their respective hotels—Gregory's and the Exchange—both of which seem to be doing a good business. The rivalry between them is very strong, and it is only fair to say that they are both well kept, and do their duty faithfully to the traveling public. I believe, though, as far as my own observation extends, that Gregory's is superior to the other. Freeman, the junior member of the firm, is "hard to beat," at his business, and I notice that nearly all of the Wilmingtonians who pass through here generally stop at Gregory's.

One of the greatest nuisances to which the traveling public are compelled to submit, is the detention here for four and one-half mortal hours, if the said traveler is going in any other direction than up or down the straight line of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. This fact can be due to but one cause—a jealousy of the present prosperity of our own road, showing thereby an utter disregard of the convenience of the traveling public. Nothing better than this could be expected of such a man as William A. Smith, but of the management of the Atlantic Railroad a better arrangement should have been looked for. I wish that President Bridgers, of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, would run up here some fine day and buy up the little scraps of iron between this place and Raleigh, on the one side, and Newbern on the other. A little of his own energy and that of his worthy Superintendent, Col. Fremont, would soon impose some life into these fast fossilizing things yclepted, in modern parlance, railroads.

Goldsboro' is a much larger place than those who merely see it from the cars as they pass through would think, and a good deal of produce is brought in from the surrounding country and sold here or shipped from here. The commercial vitality of the place received a severe blow, though, from the effects of the disastrous fire which so recently devastated the town, destroying, as it did, nearly one-half of the business portion, and entailing a severe loss on the people at large. But it will not be long before all of this "burnt district" will be rebuilt, and even now some progress has been made in that direction. Messrs. Weil & Bros. have already erected a handsome brick building and Messrs. R. J. Gregory and William Robinson are each laying the foundations for others.

And why is it, by the way, that so little of the trade of this town and of the surrounding country reaches Wilmington, the natural outlet, one would think, for all of its wealth of products? Instead, Newbern and Norfolk—more especially the latter—are lapping it up, while our own city is fast falling behind in the game. The trade of this place is worth a great deal—enough, at all events, to contend for—and yet our people sit quietly down and see it pass into other hands.

In despite of the efforts of President Smith to the contrary, Wilmington, if she does not receive the products of middle and western North Carolina for exportation, is yet determined to do something for the benefit of the people of these sections. This is done through the combined efforts of your steamship lines and the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad, and is evidenced by the heavy freights which are continually arriving from your port and being sent forward to points along the line of the North Carolina Railroad. A few days since the combined mail and freight train between this place and Raleigh was so heavily laden, with a train made up almost entirely from the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad, that, after vainly struggling to get along with it, and running an hour behind time in the fruitless attempt, it was compelled to leave some of it behind at a station this side of Raleigh. And yet, President Smith thinks that one train per day is enough for passengers, mail and freight.

As far as newspapers are concerned, Goldsboro' is a lively place. There are five newspapers published here, three of which are issued by our energetic friend Bonitz, of the *Messenger*. Whitaker, the scallawag, publishes the other two. I might add that neither of these latter is worth a continental, but I won't.

I will write again, shortly,—for the present, good bye. Yours, SOMETIMES.

EDGECOMBE AFFAIRS.—From the Tarboro' *Southerner* we learn that in the Griffin murder case, Simmons, the principal actor in this tragedy, was found guilty of manslaughter. A *nol pros* was entered as to Winborn and Bellamy, the other defendants.

On Thursday Lewis Hines (colored) was tried for rape upon the person of a white girl. He was found guilty and sentenced to be hung on Friday, the 14th of January.

On Monday, Jack Scott (colored) was convicted of an assault to commit rape upon the person of a little negro girl. He was sentenced to five years in the Penitentiary.

On Tuesday H. Anderson (colored) was convicted of attempting to burn the gin house of Mr. H. L. Leggett. He was sentenced to five years in the Penitentiary.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN NEW HANOVER COUNTY.—The following is a correct return of the number of children in the several townships of this county together with the amount of money apportioned each township as a school fund—being fifty cents to each child. This is to be understood as embracing children between six and twenty-one years old, white and colored, male and female:

Townships.	*Number of Children.*	*Amount Apportioned*
Federal Point	131	$ 65 50
Masonboro'	138	69 00
Harnett	478	239 00
Grant	447	223 50
Holly	360	180 0
Union	535	267 50
Holden	390	195 00
Lincoln	434	217 00
Cape Fear	250	125 00
Columbia	542	271 00
Franklin	628	314 00
Caswell	312	156 00
Wilmington	2,890	1,445 00
Total	7,535	$3,767 50

Of this number 3,515 are white, and 4,020 colored.

Keep out of bad company, for the chances are that when the devil fires into a flock he will hit somebody.

Our Future.

English Investments in the South.

From the New York Bulletin.

That the South will ultimately absorb a large part of the cotton manufacturing interest is conclusively proved by the present state of affairs. Of the mills of New England, many of them are now closed; others are running on short time; while not one single corporation in the North, so far as we know, is working up to its maximum production. The cause of this semi-prostration in one of our most important interests is plainly to be seen in the diminished wants of the people at high prices, the falling off in the amount of exports, and, consequently, the little, or in most cases, no margin afforded in selling the goods at current rates. The cost of producing a yard of cotton standard sheeting in Massachusetts and in Georgia exhibits a difference of fully twenty per cent. and over. This is accounted for in various ways: The slight difference in cost of the raw material; the freighting expenses, which of course, in Georgia, are done away with, the less expense of labor in handling, &c., are a few of the most important. The result is that every Northern manufacturer is complaining that present rates do not even afford interest on the capital invested in property, machinery, &c. Besides, the Northern water-powers are all absorbed by monied corporations, which, of course, to benefit their stockholders, are forced to levy and collect as much as possible for rents, while the dense population of the North renders every foot of ground adjacent to these water-courses valuable for dwelling and business purposes. Thus the mill owner is obliged to contract his limits for manipulating the articles fabricated to the smallest space possible, or else absorb more space at a comparatively high price, which the prospective profits do not warrant.—In the South these water-powers are altogether more numerous, and, from the extent of the majority of them, capable of exerting more power than those of the North, while the prices at which eligible lands and sites are now offered, compared to those of the North, are decidedly low. English capitalists are therefore awaking to the excellency of the field thus offered for investment, and many of their agents are at this moment in the South prospecting, while their numbers are augmented by almost every steamer. The "Cotton Supply Association," of London, England, came to the conclusion this summer that India's production of the staple had reached its maximum, unless efforts were made to improve the condition of the land. "In that peninsula (India) there was an abundant field for cultivation, and a cheap labor market. Before the agricultural condition of India would reach the desired position great improvements were necessary. Those improvements, considering the vast area of the country, and the want of means of communication, could not be effected by private enterprise alone. The government was paternal, and to it they must look for assistance." Resolutions were adopted petitioning the government for some assistance, which so far have been of little avail. The non-success of their projects, and the satisfactory accounts received as to the condition of the South, turned their attention to this new field of investment open to them, where private enterprises could be most effectually and successfully employed. The consequence was the dispatching of an agent to inquire into and report full particulars regarding the production and manufacture of cotton in the Southern States. The gentleman filling this position has arrived here, has visited the South, and is probably ere this on his way back to report his experiences, which we are rather anxious to know, as pending this action of the association, a number of English capitalists stand ready to pour their wealth into the South, which must largely contribute to its prosperity and advancement. That the benefits to accrue from such investments are immense is beyond question, and we regret exceedingly that this should be made by foreigners, while large amounts of unemployed capital at the North should be allowed to remain idle.

A New Explosive Agent.

Dauline is a coarse powder of a light brown color, looking very much like sawdust, or like Virginia smoking tobacco.—It will neither decompose (even by being accidentally brought in contact with acids), nor congeal, nor pack together, nor lose any of its properties during a spell of cold or hot weather. It is immaterial whether the magazine in which dualine is kept be dry or damp, hot or cold. Dualine, if fired by a flame or coal, will burn in the open air without exploding. Twenty-five pounds of dualine contained in a strongly-made keg, over which a large fire was built, commenced burning rather slowly only after the staves had been burned through. But if confined in a strong enclosure, as in a well-tamped blast-hole, in the box of a mine, in a torpedo, &c., dualine can be exploded like powder by a fuse or spark. The stronger the enclosure is, the greater is the effect of the explosion. In the open air, or with a tamping of loose sand, or under water, it is necessary to use a cap in order to cause the dualine to explode.

Dauline is so little sensitive to concussion that it may, without any danger of premature explosion, be used for the bursting charge of shells.

Dauline acts on coal and rock less violently than nitro-glycerine and dynamite do. Its explosion produces in coal a larger quantity of lumps and round coal than even a corresponding charge of powder would produce.

Absolutely cheaper than either nitro-glycerine or dynamite, it is also relatively cheaper tean common blasting powder, for hardly one-fifth of the work and time required in using the latter is needed for successfully operating with dualine.

The explosion of dualine does not cause the development of any noxious gases, and miners may resume their work immediately after a blast has been fired. In the Dudweiler mine, for instance, a mine that is not well ventilated, five blasts were made in quick succession, yet the miners were not in the least molested by the gases developed by the combustion of ten ounces of dualine used for the charges of these blasts. At another much better part of the same mine a charge of only two ounces of dynamite was fired; its explosion filled the shaft with nitric acid gases that were insupportable to the men in the mine. Dualine, combining strength with safety, and certainty of action with considerable saving of expenses, may therefore be destined to occupy ere long, in mining operations on this continent, the same place which it has obtained in Europe since last May, when the first trials with it were made.

A Postal Convenience.

A novelty, as well as a decided convenience, has been introduced into the postal arrangements in Austria. Cards of a fixed size are sold at all the postoffices for two kreutzers, one side being for the address and the other for the note, which may be written either with ink or with any kind of pencil. It is thrown into the box, and delivered without envelopes. The object is to enable persons to send off with the least possible trouble messages of small importance without recourse to paper, pens, ink and envelopes.

If you have been tempted to evil, fly from it; it is not falling into the water, but lying in it, that drowns.

Payment for Slaves.

From the Baltimore American, December 6.

On Saturday morning Chief Justice Scott filed the following opinion in the case of Samuel R. Buffington, trustee of Elizabeth Kelton vs. Annie L. Davis, in which case argument was had in Baltimore City Court on Saturday, 27th ult., on the demurrer of plaintiff to the pleas filed by defendant, as noticed in the American of Monday last.

This suit was brought on the 19th February, 1869, to recover the sum of twelve hundred dollars and interest, alleged to be due upon the promissory note of the defendant, made at Charleston, S. C., 16th March, 1861, and payable at eight months with interest, to C. R. Brewster, or order, and by him endorsed, without recourse to the plaintiff as trustee, &c.

Afterwards, with the leave of the Court the defendant filed four additional pleas, 5 Gill. 98, and the Plaintiff demurred. Of the four additional pleas, the first alleges that the note was given for the purchase of a negro man slave, which negro was set free by the proclamation of the President of the United States, issued on the 22d day of September 1862 to take effect on the 1st of January 1863, whereby the consideration for said note wholly and entirely failed.

The second plea alleges that the consideration of the said note was the said negro Peter, and that at the time of the sale of said negro the said Brewster was in possession of said negro as trustee of Mrs. Kelton, and warranted that the said negro should for lifetime remain a slave, &c., but that afterwards, to wit, on the 22d of September, 1862, and first of January, 1863, the Government of the United States, through its Congress and Chief Executive officer, divested the defendant of all right, and pronounced the said negro free, whereby she lost all power and control, &c., and has become damaged to the amount of two thousand dollars, and pleads the same as a set off, &c.

The third plea sets forth that the consideration of the note was the purchase money of the said negro, who was warranted a slave for life, and that afterwards the State of South Carolina, on the 17th March, 1868, changed the organic law of that State, whereby it was ordained "that slavery shall never exist in said State," whereby she has been divested of all right and power, &c.; and the fourth plea charges that the consideration of the said note was the said negro as a slave for life, which consideration has wholly failed by reason of the declaration of the said State on the 30th January, 1868, in Soverign Convention, that all contracts, the consideration of which was the purchase of slaves, are null, void and of no effect, whereby said note hath become null, void, &c.

The Government of the United States is of limited and defined authority, having only the powers in the Constitution granted. No authority is granted to the United States Government over the subject of slavery in the several States, except that their importation shall not be prohibited prior to the year 1808, consequently the proclamation of the President was without authority and void. True, the object of the unjust act has been accomplished, but that does not make it right.

The contract between Brewster and the defendant is to be interpreted and enforced according to the *lex loci contractus*, 2 Gill & Johnson, 244, and the present holder of the note sued or took it with notice, but the obligation of the contract is not affected either by the unauthorized acts of force of the officials of the United States Government, or by the ordinances of the Convention of South Carolina of the 30th January, 1868, or of the 17th March, 1868. When these ordinances were passed South Carolina was a State in the Union. Constitution U. S., art. 1, sec. 10.

It has been held by high authority that no State can divest vested rights without compensation, and such also is the law of England, 6 Adolph & Ellis, 989.

The Supreme Court of the United States has said that a State legislative act divesting vested rights is not a violation of the Constitution of the United States unless it impairs the obligation of a contract. 12 Peters 5, 39, 546, but the Supreme Court has not said that such an act was authorized. It clearly would not be valid in Maryland. Constitution, Art. 3, Sec. 40.

Entertaining these views, I sustain the demurrer, and order a jury to be sworn to try the issues of law joined under the first, second and third pleas, and assess the damages, &c.

Treasury Receipts, Expenditures and Estimates.

At the conclusion of his annual report to Congress the Secretary of the Treasury gives the usual statement of the receipts and expenditures, estimates, &c. The statement for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1869, exhibits the total receipts, exclusive of loans, to have been $37,943,747; expenditures, $221,490,597; receipts in excess of expenditures, $19,453,149. The receipts for the quarter ending last September were $108,831,622; expenditures, $85,480,514; receipts in excess of expenditures, $23,351,107.

The estimated receipts and expenditures for the three remaining quarters of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1870, are as follows: Total receipts $286,000,000; total expenditures $209,250,000. Estimated receipts in excess of expenditures $76,750,000. He estimates the receipts for the year ending June 30, 1871, at $393,000,000; expenditures $291,000,000; receipts in excess of expenditures $102,000,000. These estimates are made on the assumption that the laws in force will not be changed, and that no extraordinary appropriations will be made.

Important to Grocers.

The following decision of the Internal Revenue Department will be of interest to grocers generally:

OFFICE OF INTERNAL REVENUE,
WASHINGTON, Dec. 3, 1869.

SIR: I reply to your letter of the 1st inst., that any person who grinds coffee or spices *for use and sale* is regarded as a grinder of coffee or spices within meaning of paragraph 51, section 79, of the act of June 30, 1864, as amended, and should be required to pay tax as such. If, however, a grocer or dealer has a coffee-mill upon his premises, in which he grinds *coffee* or *spices, which he has already sold* and weighed out, or otherwise separated from that left on hand for sale, he would not thereby incur additional liability as a "grinder of coffee or spices." The fact that a grinder of coffee or spices may have paid the tax of dealers or liquor dealer in no manner serves to relieve him from payment of the special tax imposed under the provisions of paragraph 51 aforesaid.

Yours, very respectfully,
J. W. DOUGLASS,
Deputy Commissioner.

Krupp, the Prussian cannon-maker, is building a palace for himself that will surpass any owned by royalty in Europe.

They say in Paris that Victor Hugo owns nearly all the valuable real estate on the Isle of Guernsey.

A son of Oliver Wendell Holmes, the poet, is private Secretary of Senator Sumner.

Brigham Young, Jr., of Salt Lake City, with only a few of his wives, is in New York.

The "girl of the period," one hundred years ago, wore a sharp needle in the top of her stay which pricked her chin unless she held her head up.